FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 FEBRUARY 1987

Lebanon

Syrian Measures — Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an announced 23 February that Syrian forces would shortly occupy all party offices in West Beirut, Beirut radio reported. Voice of Lebanon radio cited reports that the Syrians have closed down a number of Amal Movement and PSP offices and arrested 90 PSP members. Syrian troops killed 7 PSP and Communist Party gunmen in various clashes, the radio said.

On Syria's intentions toward the situation in southern Beirut, Voice of National Resistance radio reported a statement by Gen Kan'an denying that Syrian forces intend to enter the southern suburb. However, in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio, Prime Minister Rashid Karami stressed that the 9-point security plan "includes the southern suburb." As for the foreign hostages, Lebanese political sources said the Syrians will soon capture a base in West Beirut used by fundamentalists for detaining foreign hostages, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

PSP leader Walid Junblatt reaffirmed his support for the Syrian measures in remarks reported by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio, and he stressed the need to "rectify" relations between the nationalist parties and the Amal Movement. Junblatt said he opposes disarming the Palestinians, adding that an overall agreement to define and reorganize the Palestinian presence requires the establishment of a "nationalist, just, and secure regime" in Lebanon.

Further Israeli Comment — The Syrians should know that Israel is watching their moves in Lebanon and that it will take care of Israeli interests and security, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio. A *Ma'ariv commentary viewed the Syrian move as Soviet-inspired*, asserting that the USSR was concerned over the possibility of U.S. intervention in Lebanon and therefore wanted the Syrians to restore order in order to eliminate pretexts for a U.S. move.

Other Reaction — A TASS analysis maintained that Syria's intervention was welcomed by all "patriotic" forces in Lebanon, adding that the Americans "beat their own records in hypocrisy" by opposing the Syrian move. Damascus radio likewise denounced the U.S. and Israeli attitude, but emphasized that when Syria decides something "it does not need anyone's approval." Jordan's *Sawt al-Sha'b* welcomed the intervention as "good news" that signals the long-awaited recovery. On the other hand, Cairo television claimed that the Lebanese are "infuriated" by the Syrian move, which heralds "a more effective round of Palestinian genocide" and is a step toward partitioning Lebanon between Syria and Israel.

Syria's Relations With Libya, Iran

President Hafiz al-Asad discussed "regional developments and bilateral relations" with Libyan Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud 23 February, Damascus television reported. The Iranian foreign minister and the Revolution Guards Corps minister arrived in Syria the same evening, according to Damascus radio. IRNA said the Iranian delegation will discuss bilateral relations, the regional situation and issues of mutual interest during their talks with Syrian officials.

Israel

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres has "no authority whatsoever" to reach any agreement with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak about an international conference, Prime Minister Shamir warned in remarks reported by Jerusalem television. Shamir's comments followed the disclosure that Peres will visit Cairo 25 February to discuss the peace process with Mubarak. Asked by the television whether the government may disband, Shamir said this "may definitely be the case." Reacting to Shamir's warnings, Peres told Jerusalem radio that he does not know why the opposition to his position has "suddenly become serious now," and he emphasized his view that an international conference would be an opening step toward direct negotiations with the Arabs. Likud ministers have demanded that Peres obtain cabinet authorization for his visit and that he delay his departure until after Shamir's return from the United States, the radio noted.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian statement reported by IRNA "categorically denied" that Iran fired a "single shell" at Basra and accused Iraq of continuing to shell Abadan and Khorramshahr. The statement followed an Iraqi military announcement on Voice of the Masses radio that "many civilians" were killed or wounded when Iran violated the principles for a halt to the "cities war" by shelling Basra 22 and 23 February. The Iraqi announcement also described the Iranian offensive in the Jasim River area as a "blatant and premeditated attack against our national soil." A communique broadcast by the radio said that Iraqi forces "confronted" the Iranian attack, inflicting "thousands" of casualties. The same communique noted that Iraqi warplanes destroyed three SAM missile batteries in the Khorramshahr and Karun River areas.

Two Iraqi warplanes were downed in the Karbala'-5 sector 23 February, IRNA reported, adding that Iranian soldiers are fortifying their positions. An Iraqi military spokesman denied Iranian claims that two Mirage jets were downed over the Gulf 24 February, INA noted.

Regarding other action against Iraq, the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announced that guerrillas inside that country began the second phase of the Fath-4 operations 22 February, IRNA reported. Iraqi forces reportedly suffered at least 1,500 casualties in attacks on various military and economic installations in the area of Rawanduz and Diyanah, Irbil Province, including the headquarters and the communications center of Iraq's V Corps.

Pakistan-USSR

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told visiting Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan that the resolution of the Afghan problem "requires reciprocity," TASS reported. Shevardnadze also affirmed that a political settlement based on the termination of "outside interference" would "expedite" the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

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[Due to the closing of federal offices 23 February 1987, Daily Report No 035 was not published]

Palestinian Reaction to Syrian Move Into Lebanon

PLO Condemns Move

LD222321 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] The PLO issued the following statement about the entry of Syrian forces into Beirut and the coastal road. The statement went as follows: The Syrian regime had the boldness today, within obvious intrigue, following the clashes triggered by the Amal Movement gangs and the 6th and 1st Brigades against the nationalist parties and forces in Lebanon, where these clashes were used as an excuse for the new Syrian military intervention in West Beirut to reinforce its previous presence and to support the Amal Movement in its aggression on the Palestinian camps and to continue the execution of the conspiracy. [sentence as heard] In view of the complications and dangers involved in this step by the Syrian regime, the PLO wishes to emphasize the following points:

First: The PLO considers the entry of new Syrian forces into Beirut and Lebanese territory an illegal action. In spite of the fact that this question can be considered as belonging deeply to matters of Lebanese sovereignty, the intervention of the Syrian forces without a constitutional Lebanese or Arab agreement can be considered as a violation of and a transgression on the sovereignty of an Arab country — Lebanon, a dangerous trespass of its laws and practices, an offense to legitimate Lebanese sovereignty and its constitutional institutions, and a dangerous precedent launched by the Syrian regime in Arab relations.

Second: The PLO, with regard to the continuous aggression against our Palestinian camps in Lebanon for 146 days in which the Syrian forces took part with its tanks, artillery, and missiles, considers the Syrian regime's forces to have a fundamental part in the aggression, the siege, the starving out, and the extermination of our camps and people. These facts emphasize the Syrian regime's direct participation in the aggression on the Palestinian camps and in light of what the head of intelligence of the Syrian regime in Lebanon declared yesterday, carries a new shameless threat of new massacres of Palestinians. Hence, the PLO imputes the full responsibility for what is happening to our people's camps to the Syrian regime and its forces in Lebanon.

Third: The PLO calls insistently for the return of the deterrent Arab forces to Lebanon to guarantee and secure the protection of our Palestinian camps. The PLO demands that the Arab countries should shoulder their responsibilities in the protection of our camps in view of the continuous aggressive actions, either by Arab forces or by demand of the UN observers and the UN forces present in Lebanon, to undertake this protection or by giving the opportunity to the PLO and making its mission easy so that it can undertake the burdens of this responsibility to protect its people.

Fourth: This step by the Syrian regime, which comes after 5 months of aggressive war against the camps and the choking siege imposed on them and the failure of all the so-called agreements to lift the siege or to ensure the entry of food and medical products, this step comes as a barefaced Syrian intervention to save the Amal Movement gangs from failure and collapse, which is the same step the Zionist enemy resorted to in the south, where its forces bomb our camps by aircraft, artillery, and missiles. This, added to the fact that the arrival of the Syrian forces to the Awali River north of Sidon, reveals the agreement to share power between the Zionists, the Americans, and the Syrians. We warned against this previously, especially that this military act by the Syrian regime's forces on the coastal road and West Beirut was among the main secret subjects examined by the Zionist terrorist Shamir, prime minister of the enemy, with the U.S. officials during his recent visit to the United States, which is entrusting the Damascus regime once again with the dirty role of striking the nationalist and Islamic Lebanese forces, eliminating the Palestinian camps, and exterminating our people in them following the failure of the first round in the Zionist-American-sectarian conspiracy because of the legendary steadfastness of our people in their camps and their support by the nationalist and Islamic forces. The PLO again warns the Arab nation to confront this dreadful plan being executed in Lebanon to divide it and to set up cantons and sectarian mini-states to achieve the balkanization of the whole region, in which the Syrian regime has become entangled. This balkanization aims at eliminating the Palestinian existence and expelling half a million Palestinians from Lebanon. This presence forms a strong dam against the dreadful sectarian plans against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and the Arab nation.

The PLO brings these facts before the international, Islamic, and Arab public opinion, and warns all against the aims of the new and intensive Syrian military intervention in West Beirut and its outskirts, reminding all of the dreadful slaughters committed by this regime especially during the entry of its forces in Tripoli, in the north of Lebanon, 2 months ago and the dreadful slaughters it committed against the inhabitants.

[Signed] The PLO

Memos Sent to UN, Others

JN221833 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat made an urgent appeal to international organizations, particularly the United Nations, this morning. He urged them to send forces to protect the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. This came in urgent memorandums addressed to the general secretaries of the United Nations, the Arab League, and the ICO as well as the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement. In his memorandums, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] called for the dispatch of Arab or international forces, or for allowing the PLO to protect the camps which are still being subjected to attacks and a full siege, indicating the dangers threatening the Palestinian camps following the new military intervention in Lebanon.

The PLO issued a statement in Tunis this afternoon in which it condemned what it termed the new Syrian military intervention in Beirut. It considered this action illegal, a blatant violation of Lebanon's sovereignty, and a serious precedent in Arab relations. The Palestinian statement held the Syrian regime responsible for the war of annihilation and for the siege to which the Palestinian camps in Lebanon have been exposed for 5 months. It added that the dispatch of new Syrian forces to Lebanon is part of a plot aimed at partitioning Lebanon into sectarian cantons and at expelling 500,000 Palestinians from Lebanon. The PLO asked the Arab countries to shoulder their pan-Arab responsibility toward protecting the Palestinian camps.

Radio Hits 'Death Train'

JN222108 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1837 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Station commentary:—"The Damascus Death Train and the Difficult Railway"]

[Text] Brothers, the delusion of Syrian control and hegemony over Lebanon and the Lebanese is completely burning now in light of the direct Syrian miliitary intervention in favor of the Amal gangs against the Lebanese nationalists' major parties, which confronted Amal during the recent battles in West Beirut which were ignited by the agent Amal gangs to implement its sectarian Syrian plan which Damascus imagines will pave the road for it to regional influence along with Israel in Lebanon.

The fact is that the delusion of Syrian control over Lebanon has matured since the eruption of clashes last Monday between the agent Amal gangs and the Lebanese nationalist parties. The fire of the outworn Syrian delusion was awaiting its fuel for a period which was not short. This fire gave its signs through the general dissatisfaction that prevailed in the various trends in Lebanon. In fact, this dissatisfaction has affected some of the forces which belong to Damascus itself under the slogan of alliance. In the National Syrian Social Party, the dissatisfaction has expressed itself through a decisive step which toppled that leaders of that party who follow Damascus and its decision.

In light of the fires now eating up the Syrian delusion of controlling Lebanon, we can clearly see how defeated the Syrian role in Lebanon is, how conspiratorial the Syrian role is, how empty the claims of this role are, and how false the agreements are which were fabricated by Damascus through the force of terrorism to impose its hegemony on the pretext of achieving security and its conditions which only see West Beirut as its field of action. Moreover, the Syrian role, through igniting the aggressive war against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, has been completely exposed and stained with the treasonous and conspiratorial agreements with Israel and with its alliances with Israel's agents in the Lebanese arena from Elie Hubayqah to Nabih Birri's gangs. In short, the Syrian role has been completely unmasked and exposed as being a treasonous, conspiratorial role which primarily serves Israel's objectives, not only against the Lebanese and Palestinian issues, but against all the Arab nation's issues.

What proves this now is the large-scale, direct Syrian military intervention in West Beirut in favor of the Amal gangs against the Lebanese nationalist parties and their confrontation of the Amal gangs' hideous sectarian Syrian plan. Undoubtedly, this large-scale, serious Syrian intervention is primarily threatening the temporary Palestinian presence just as it is threatening all of Lebanon — land, people, and a national democratic plan which will restore Lebanon's true Arabism, its effective sovereignty, and its unity which will cancel sectarianism and its sick dreams.

While sending more military forces to West Beirut, the Damascus regime seeks to decide the conflict in favor of its destructive divisionist plan through liquidating all the forces that oppose this plan, foremost of which are the Palestinian camps and what they represent. Saving the Amal gangs from a crushing defeat is among the major concerns of the Damascus regime to prevent the collapse of its sick dreams. We are certain that the Damascus regime will not hesitate to commit the most terrible and hideous crimes against Palestinian and Lebanese citizens for the sake of implementing its hideous sectarian plan. Certainly, the Syrian regime's forces will not throw roses and flowers on the Palestinian and Lebanese citizens in West Beirut. The record of the Syrian special forces is full of massacres in Tall al-Za'tar, Tripoli, Shatila, Burj al-Barajinah, Aleppo, and Hamah.

Today, in front of the dangers of annihilation and indiscriminate murder against the Lebanese citizens and the sons of the Palestinian people in West Beirut, the negative Arab appeals to Damascus are no longer useful to convince it to stop the death train which Damascus is continuing to reinforce with more military forces which arrived in West Beirut today. A serious, effective, and decisive Arab stand is required to stop this hideous train, to bridle the Syrian regime, and to completely isolate it for the sake of toppling it, which has become an urgent national and pan-Arab need.

The masses of the Lebanese people and their nationalist forces, which ignited fire in the Syrian delusion of controlling Lebanon, are today confronting the challenges of imposing this control by military force to prevent the fragmentation of Lebanon and its loss forever as one unified country. The bolstering of the alliance with the steadfast Palestinian force in the valiant Palestinian camp and the closing of ranks in the face of the stronger Syrian forces are the only means to deter the destructive Syrian plan. This is the only means to shatter, once and for all, the Damascus rulers' delusions of turning the fragmented Lebanon into a protectorate for them, and for the Arab nation's enemies who seek to destroy it.

'Interference' Condemned

JN231001 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Tunis, 23 Feb (INA) — PLO official spokesman Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman has stated that the Syrian regime's military interference in Lebanon came after the failure of the agent Amal gangs, the allies of that regime, and of the Zionist entity to strike at the steadfastness of the Palestinians in the camps. In a statement to an INA correspondent here today, the Palestinian official added that the PLO strongly opposes and condemns this blatant interference. He added that it also opposes any Arab approval of it, particularly since the legitmate Lebanese authority, the national Lebanese masses, and their independent forces have not asked that regime to intervene in Lebanon's affairs.

'Abd al-Rahmadn affirmed that the Syrian interference came in accordance with Israeli-U.S. approval in light of the promises made by that regime's representative in Lebanon, [Syrian Brigadier General] Ghazi Kan'an when he announced the Syrian interference in Lebanese affairs.

The Palestinian official linked the statements made by the Zionist military spokesman with the statements made by the Damascus rulers — statements that give categorical evidence of that agent regime's involvement in a scheme prepared by the Zionist entity to divide and occupy Arab Lebanon. He said: The Zionist military spokesman welcomed the entry of Hafiz al-Asad's forces into Lebanon and described it as an expansion of the Syrian strategy toward Lebanon. The Zionist spokesman also said this interference does not affect Israel's security interests.

The Palestinian official emphasized that the Palestinian people everywhere will not go back on their determination to carry their rifles to confront this new link in the conspiracy perpetrated by the Syrian regime in cooperation with the agent Amal Movement and the Zionist entity.

The PLO spokesman called on all honorable people in the world to stand on the side of the Palestinian people and their cause and to expose the conspiracy aimed at fragmenting Lebanon into areas of influence for the Syrian regime and the Zionist entity.

Al-Sa'iqah, PFLP-GC Welcome Move

JN231110 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] The General Command of the Popular Liberation War Vanguards, the Al-Sa'iqah Forces, has expressed its great appeciation for Syria's pan-Arab decision responding to the Lebanese call to provide military assistance to Lebanon. In a statement yesterday, Farhan Abu al-Hayja', the Al-Sa'iqah Forces spokesman, said: This courageous decision came at a time when the conspiracy of the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary forces has escalated against Lebanon's unity and destiny and against the PLO's and Palestinian revolution's destiny. It also came in response to the Lebanese people's aspirations and ambitions.

The Palestinian spokesman saluted Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party secretary general, for responding to the call of the Lebanese masses which adhere to their cause and which believe in their pan-Arab affiliation and unity.

The PFLP-GC also welcomed the noble initiative adopted by Syria to send its forces back to West Beirut to halt bloodshed among the comrades-in-one trench in the Lebanese arena. In a statement yesterday, the PFLP-GC expressed its absolute confidence that Syria will shoulder its pan-Arab responsibility in implementing the Damascus agreement and halting the bloodshed among the brothers — bloodshed which only serves the enemies of the national, progressive plan in Lebanon.

The PFLP-GC said the Syrian response to the request to return its forces [to West Beirut] is a response to the suspect voices in the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas as well as a necessary step to unite the Lebanese and national Palestinian rifles and to aim them at the Zionist enemy.

Fatah, DFLP, Communist Party Meet in Tunis

JN210733 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] A press statement was issued in Tunis yesterday following meetings among the delegations of three Palestinian organizations to entrench Palestinian national unity and to convene the PNC. The following is the text of the press statement:

In continuation of the march of Palestinian national unity and within the efforts to implement the Prague agreement, delegations of the Fatah Movement, the DFLP, and the Palestinian Communist Party have held a meeting during which emphasis was placed on the bases of the Prague agreement, and several measures were adopted that will guarantee its implementation for the attainment of Palestinian national dialogue as soon as possible in preparation for convening the PNC. The conferees praised our masses' steadfastness and the militant unity of the Palestinian progressive forces in their defense of our people's camps in Lebanon, and highly valued the solidarity expressed by all the honest Arab and foreign forces with the Palestinian people against the siege, starvation, and massacres being carried out by the Amal Movement and those who back it.

The conferees reaffirmed fraternal and militant solidarity with the fraternal Lebanese people and their heroic nationalist movement in the struggle to expel the Zionist occupiers and for Lebanon's unity, independence, and Arab affiliation.

The conferees also expressed pride in the upheaval of our Palestinian people in the occupied territories and in their militant unity which is becoming more cohesive and more determined in confronting the schemes of the Zionist occupation and all the conspiracies against the Palestinian people's national rights.

PLO's Al-Hasan Reportedly in Amman for Talks

JN211230 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I 19 Feb 87 pp 1, 22

[Text] Amman — *Al-Ittihad* has learned that Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, who is currently visiting Amman, will begin political contacts with senior Jordanian officials within the next few days to crystallize positive developments in Jordan-PLO relations and to bring the two sides' political stands closer.

Senior Palestinian sources told *Al-Ittihad* that if Al-Hasan's talks with Jordanian officials succeed, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will visit Amman soon. 'Arafat's visit will be the first since the halt on 19 February last year in political coordination between the two sides based on the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement.

PLO Executive Committee Begins Meetings in Iraq

JN221910 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee has begun a series of meetings under the chairmanship of brother leader Abu 'Ammar

[Yasir 'Arafat]at the PLO office in Baghdad. The committee will discuss a number of issues related to the conditions of our Palestinian people in the occupied homeland and the repression, terrorism, and killing to which they are being exposed at the hands of the occupation authorities and their terrorist gangs, in addition to developments related to the ongoing aggression against the Palestinian camps and the continuation of the siege which the agent Amal gangs are imposing on the Palestinian camps — a situation which resulted in tragic conditions in the camps represented by famine and the spread of diseases. The committee will also discuss the latest developments in West Beirut such as the clashes fabricated by the Amal Movement, supported by Damascus, against the Lebanese national forces, and the serious Syrian military intervention in West Beirut to rescue the Amal gangs and persecute the Lebanese national forces with the aim of escalating the ugly criminal aggression against the Palestinian camps there.

The PLO Executive Committee is expected to issue a statement about all these issues, particularly the latest developments in West Beirut in light of the serious escalation represented by the conspiratorial Syrian decision to undertake direct military intervention in favor of the Amal gangs and the ugly sectarian scheme which these gangs are trying to achieve.

Meetings Resumed

JN231923 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1816 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee has resumed its meetings under the chairmanship of Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] in Baghdad. The committee will discuss various topics on the agenda, especially the escalation of the criminal aggression against our refugee camps, the serious escalation represented by the entry of the Syrian regime's forces into West Beirut, and the situation in the occupied homeland.

'Aarafat on Political Unity, Iraq-Iran War

JN211913 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has stated that a dialogue is currently taking place among some Palestinian factions to achieve political unity. He pointed out that the unity of Palestinians is being embodied in the fighters defending the camps in Lebanon and also in the occupied land.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Qabas* published today, he said unity is deeply rooted in the Palestinian people and in their political organizations despite outside pressures. He hailed the USSR's efforts to support the unity of Palestinians. Brother Abu 'Ammar added that when there are appropriate circumstances he will visit Moscow, and that he has an open invitation to visit Cairo and will respond to it. However, he did not set a date for the two visits.

Brother Abu 'Ammar asserted that his efforts to halt the Iraq-Iran war will continue. He expressed the conviction that the continuation of that war is not in the interest of the Arab and Islamic nations.

On Camps War, Palestine Question

JN221619 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 20 Feb 87 pp 30, 31

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Mustafa Bakri in Algiers — date not given]

[Excerpts][Bakri] The war against the camps is being fuelled and is escalating, and the siege imposed around these camps by the Amal Movement, which is directly backed by the Syrian regime, continues. Under your command, the Palestinian leadership has stuck to its positions, rejecting the techniques of intimidation and terrorism. In view of all this, what are the true dimensions of this ferocious war which seeks to liquidate the Palestinians in their camps?

['Arafat] The camps are currently witnessing a U.S.-Israeli scheme in which the Syrian regime and Hafiz al-Asad are personally involved. This scheme is part of a conspiracy which aims to divide the eastern part of the Arab world into sectarian cantons at the expense of this nation's interests and its unity. The Arab Sharons are now trying to carry out, with Israeli-U.S. blessing, what Ariel Sharon and his U.S.-backed armies were unable to do. [passage omitted]

[Bakri] What about the Syrian-Israeli meetings which have recently become a topic for discussion?

['Arafat] No one meets the Israelis, holds talks, and concludes deals with them without Al-Asad's prior knowledge. Al-Asad knows everything about these talks and deals. If President Husni Mubarak has, as he has recently said, documents on this issue, I also have similar documents. Can there be clearer proof of these dealings than the overt, clear coordination between the Syrians and the Israelis in the barbaric war launched against the camps? Things are quite clear. When they [the Syrians] are butchering the Palestinians in the camps, the Israeli Navy continues to impose a tight blockade to prevent the entry of the medical, supply, and construction materials. Israel has recently seized 11 ships at high sea. These were carrying food and medical supplies for the camps. It also arrested some defenseless Palestinians who had no weapons on them. It also blew up two of our civilian ships in Sicily. I wonder if only one side will continue to abide by the Cairo Declaration. If Israel believes so, I want to tell it that we reject this notion. Our answer is no and a thousand no's, and patience is not without limits. [passage omitted]

[Bakri] On this occasion, we want to ask you about what has been circulated by some parties regarding the chill in Egyptian-Palestinian relations?

['Arafat] What has been circulated regarding this issue is untrue. Our relations with Egypt are good; I met with President Mubarak on the sidelines of the Islamic summit in Kuwait. The meeting, during which we discussed many topics that concern our bilateral relations as well as Arab and international issues, was excellent. We appreciate Egypt's stand on the Palestine question.

[Bakri] You have recently paid tribute to the Libyan stands. Does this mean there is a change in Libya's political stands?

['Arafat] Yes, there is a change in its stand toward the camps war and the Iraq-Iran war.

[Bakri] What about Libya's initiative to end the camps war?

['Arafat] Two days before the convocation of the Islamic summit, I received a new Libyan initiative designed to end the siege [on the camps] and the fighting. This initiative also stipulated that we withdraw from Maghdushah. During the Islamic summit meetings, I accepted this initiative and notified the Arab Good Offices Committee about our decision in this regard. Then, I said that I would give them 7 days to help implement the remaining items provided for in the agreement reached. I also said we could return to Maghdushah within half an hour. We will never allow anyone to strike at our revolution and bring it to its knees. Despite all the sufferings and starvation, our people are still determined to fight and ferociously defend their existence and revolution without showing any signs of despair or retreat.

[Bakri] You held an important meeting with King Husayn of Jordan on the sidelines of the last Islamic summit. What are the most important results of that meeting?

['Arafat] During the meeting I held with His Majesty King Husayn in Kuwait, we agreed to open a new chapter in our bilateral relations. We also agreed to revive the activities of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee which was formed in accordance with a resolution adopted at the Baghdad Arab summit in 1978 with the aim of bolstering our people's steadfastness in the occupied territories. These activities were suspended when Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], a co-chairman, was expelled from Jordan. [passage omitted]

Views Relations With Jordan

NC231603 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Paris, 23 Feb (MENA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat expects the issue of Egypt's return to the Arab League will be discussed at the next Arab summit. He added that in the event this issue is discussed, the majority of Arabs will favor its return to the fold because of Egypt's social, cultural, military, political, and geographical prestige. 'Arafat noted that during their last meeting in Kuwait, he and King Husayn of Jordan agreed to open a new chapter in Jordanian-Palestinian relations, to start a new dialogue, and to revive the activity of the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee on the occupied lands. In an interview with the Paris-based paper *Kull al-'Arab* to be published on Wednesday, 'Arafat praised the results of the recent Islamic summit in Kuwait and described it as the summit of challenge. He noted that the Palestinian issue was the leading topic of discussion there, as evidenced by the resolutions issued in this respect. Regarding the Palestinian initiative to form an Islamic army that would act as a disengagement force between Iraq and Iran, 'Arafat pointed out that this decision was made by both Al-Ta'if and Casablanca summits and that the Palestinian initiative is based on these two former decisions. 'Arafat expressed his sorrow over the failure to reach an agreement on the parties from which the Islamic force could be formed. Regarding the U.S. stance with respect to the international conference, 'Arafat expressed his doubts over the U.S. President's credibility. He said it is difficult to reach any results, despite Shultz' recent message to Shamir on holding this conference. 'Arafat described Palestinian-Soviet relations as good. He added that Faruq Qaddumi, PLO Political Department head, will visit the Soviet Union soon. Concluding his interview, 'Arafat said the PNC is ready to convene at the venue that has been agreed upon. He added that some [Palestinian] factions have called for 3 more months for further preparatory dialogue.

Meets PRC Ambassador in Iraq

JN211916 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received the PRC ambassador in Baghdad at his place of residence in Baghdad last night. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar asked him to convey a message to the PRC leaders on Palestinian-PRC relations and developments in the Palestine question. Brothers 'Azzam al-Ahmad, PLO representative in fraternal Iraq, and Yusuf Rajab, PLO representative in Beijing, attended the meeting.

PLO Envoy Briefs 'Abd al-Majid on Camps War

NC191623 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 19 Feb (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received at noon today Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim, PLO representative in Cairo. 'Abd al-Rahim briefed 'Abd al-Majid on the situation in Lebanon, the continued blockade of the camps, the tragedy of starvation sufferred by Palestinian children, women, and old men, and the gravity of Israel's naval blockade of the Lebanese coasts. The two officials also discussed the recent meetings in Amman by the Jordanian-Palestinian committee in support of the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied land. 'Abd al-Rahim praised Egypt's firm stand and support for the PLO and the Palestinian people's just rights, and expressed his appreciation of the practical support offered by Egypt for the Palestinian people's steadfastness in the camps in Lebanon. 'Abd al-Rahim said the true dimensions of the Syrian regime's plots must be exposed. This regime is encouraging its tools in Lebanon to continue their siege of the camps to uproot the Palestinian existence in Lebanon, intending to implement the substitute homeland plan and to partition Lebanon into small sectarian states. He asserted the recent events in Amghdushah, where the Amal forces entered on the heels of Israeli raids, prove there is one operations room in which Israel, Syria, and the Amal Movement work against the Palestinian people and the Lebanese nationalist forces allied with the Palestinian fighters.

INTRA-GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Oil Ministers Statement; Dubai Reduces Output

JN230825 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Doha, 22 Feb (WAKH) — The GCC permanent ministerial committee for oil cooperation ended its meetings in Doha tonight. The meeting lasted about 3 hours. Following is the text of the press statement issued at the end of the meeting:

In view of their eagerness to effectively and seriously implement the agreement reached at the 80th OPEC conference, the oil ministers of the GCC states have followed closely the situation in the world oil market during the period following the implementation of that agreement. While they note with concern news agency reports that production has exceeded the level agreed upon, they view with satisfaction the success of the continuing consultations in this regard which aim to restore production to the limit agreed upon. They are also reassured by the adherence to the prices fixed in the agreement.

The signatories to the agreement [the four GCC member-states of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, and Qatar] affirm their countries' commitment to the agreement and their full compliance with all the agreement's provisions, including the provisions dealing with the production levels fixed for each state and the approved oil prices stated in the agreement.

The Omani minister of petroleum and minerals confirms the reduction in his country's oil production by the 5 percent already agreed upon and Oman's abidance by prices compatible with the prices fixed by the OPEC Geneva agreement.

The ministers view with satisfaction the decision of the Dubai Government to reduce its production by at least 10 percent and to abide by the agreed oil prices.

At the same time, the ministers expect other OPEC member-states to fully comply with their commitments on prices and production levels to implement the agreement reached in Geneva. Thus a balance can be achieved between supply and demand in the petroleum market, stability can be achieved, and the price agreed upon can be maintained so as to achieve the common interests of both producing and consuming countries.

The six states have made the necessary arrangements to follow up the implementation of the agreement. Out of their desire to find appropriate solutions to any problems that may face any of the GCC states in marketing the oil it produces in accordance with the quota set in the agreement, if it transpires that the inability to market its oil is due to the exercise by some campanies of any kind of pressure to influence the results of the Geneva agreement or is due to the failure of some companies to meet their obligations, then the six GCC states agree to promptly hold consultations among themselves so as to reduce such pressure by the methods they deem fit, such as one of the other GCC states that has marketing capabilities undertaking to market the part of the state's oil production which it could not market itself, on its behalf or through any other measures.

While they appreciate the measures taken by non-OPEC states to support OPEC's policy to bring about stability in the world oil market both by reducing their production and by abiding by the prices that are compatible with the posted price fixed by the Geneva agreement, the ministers look forward to further cooperation and convergence of efforts to achieve their common goals and interests.

KUWAIT

Romanian Military Group Arrives, Holds Talks

LD221256 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Feb (KUNA) — General Victor Stanculescu, [rank as received], first deputy minister of national defense of the Socialist Republic of Romania, began talks here today with Major General Mazyad al-Sani', chief of the General Staff of the Kuwaiti Army.

The discussions between Gen Stanculescu and Maj Gen al-Sani' covered military cooperation.

Gen Stanculescu arrived in Kuwait at dawn today leading a military delegation on an official visit to the country that will last 3 days, during which he is to hold talks with Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah and Chief of Staff Maj Gen Mazyad al-Sani'. The talks will focus on the consolidation of military cooperation between the two countries.

The Romanian military official will also visit some military barracks.

Polish Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives 22 Feb

LD230014 Kuwait KUNA in English 1903 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 22 (KUNA) — Poland's Deputy Foreign Minister Jan Majewski arrived here tonight for three days of official talks.

The Polish minister, who came here from Cairo, told KUNA Sanaa would be his next stop as his tour of the region is intended to bolster ties between Warsaw and these Arab capitals.

Majewski, the highest ranking Polish official to visit Kuwait since 1983, regretted that since the visit here by Poland's foreign minister in that year contacts between the two countries had been scarce.

But he stressed that "Poland is very much interested in keeping dialogue with Kuwait."

He hoped his visit here would help make ties between the two countries "more profitable for both sides."

Meets Foreign Ministry Official

LD231053 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0948 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Kuwait, 23 February — Official talks between Kuwait and Poland began here at the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry this morning.

The Kuwaiti side was headed by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, and included a number of Foreign Ministry specialists; the Polish side was headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Jan Majewski and members of his delegation as well as the Polish ambassador to Kuwait.

Majewski arrived here last night on a 3-day official visit at the invitation of Al-Shahin, who said after this morning's 2 and 1/2 hour long talks, that the two sides discussed bilateral relations and cooperation. He added that the details of the areas covered by the cooperation, including financing, economy and oil, will be discussed by the visiting Polish minister and the Kuwaiti ministers tomorrow.

Al-Shahin praised Poland's support for Arab causes, saying: "We appreciate the Polish stances, particularly when Poland was still a UN Security Council member at the time of the Council's adoption of its resolution on the Iraq-Iran war. We also appreciate its stances toward the Palestine question, in particular, and Arab causes, in general."

Majewski said he invited the deputy Kuwaiti prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah to visit Warsaw and that the invitation will be conveyed to Shaykh al-Sabah so that he may fix the date for it. He expressed his hope that the exchange of visits will bolster relations between the two countries for the good of their people.

Al-Shahin added that the Polish minister reiterated his country's position on the Iraq-Iran war and the need to end it by just and peaceful means.

He also said Kuwait briefed the Polish guest on all that is of interest to Poland on the results of the ICO summit held here 26 January. Kuwait is the current ICO chairman and hosted the conference. He added that the two sides also discussed all matters of interest to Poland and Kuwait.

Majewski told KUNA the talks covered two basic issues: bilateral relations and ways to bolster them, and international affairs, particularly those of interest to Kuwait and Poland.

The Polish minister said the two sides expressed their conviction that bilateral relations have been growing well, both politically and economically, and that there is scope to further and bolster them. It was agreed to adopt measures toward this end.

Concerning international issues of interest to the two countries, Majewski announced that their views were "similar on the issues discussed, with each side reserving the method that suits it with regard to bolstering international peace and security."

He affirmed that the views of both sides were identical with regard to the Iraq-Iran war and the Middle East question.

Majewski will meet with the ministers of electricity, war and information, and oil, as well as with the minister of state for Council of Ministers' affairs, tomorrow to discuss the details of Kuwaiti-Polish cooperation in the various fields.

Heir Apparent Visits UK for Medical Tests

LD221136 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] His Highness the heir apparent and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, left, with God's care and protection, at noon today for the United Kingdom on a 2-week private visit during which he is to complete some medical tests. May God protect him in his travel and stay.

PDRY

Defense Minister, Soviet Official Address Rally

EA230016 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Excerpts] The Soviet peoples and their Armed Forces celebrate the 69th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces today, Sunday.

Yesterday, a speech rally was held. Brother Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad, candidate member of the [YSP] Political Bureau and minister of defense, delivered a speech in which he congratulated the comrades-in-arms of the Soviet Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

Brother Salih 'Ubayd praised the true principled stand of the USSR toward our people and their Armed Forces and its assistance to overcome the harm caused by the black 13 January and the continuing strengthening of our country's defense capability.

The brother minister of defense also praised the role of the Soviet experts and advisers in raising the level of combat readiness of our Armed Forces which are capable today of discharging the tasks entrusted to them by the YSP.

The senior Soviet adviser also delivered a speech in which he touched on the assistance extended by the Soviet Armed Forces to democratic Yemen which is aimed at strengthening the defense capability of our country and protecting and safeguarding the achievements of our people and progressive regime against the machinations and conspiracies of our enemies.

YSP Party Chief Al-Bid Meets DPRK Delegation

EA201230 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, YSP Central Committee secretary general, this morning received in his office a delegation of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK], led by Comrade Kim Kuk-hun, member of the Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the Directorate of People's Organizations, which is currently visiting our country.

At the beginning of the meeting the brother secretary general welcomed the delegation, saying relations between the two parties and peoples would witness further development in various spheres, particularly following the 13 January incidents. He stressed our country's principled and firm stand in supporting the just Korean cause and the WPK's policy in the Korean peninsula, and the importance of coordinating efforts in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

The leader of the delegation expressed thanks for our country's principled stand in supporting the just Korean cause and our country's principled stand in backing the joint hosting of the Olympic games and the holding of the 13th Youth Festival in Democratic Korea.

The meeting was attended by Brother Sa'id Askari 'Abdallah, member and deputy secretary of the Central Committee; and Comrade Myong Chang-son, DPRK ambassador in Aden.

Delegation Departs

EA202033 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] The WPK delegation headed by Comrade Kim Ku-hun, member of the Central Committee and deputy director of the Department of Popular Organizations of the WPK Central Committee, left Aden this morning after spending several days in our country. The delegation held talks with the Yemeni Socialist Party. They stressed the importance of reinforcing and developing relations between the two parties in the interests of the two parties and the peoples of the two friendly countries. A protocol on party cooperation also was signed.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Brother Sa'd Askari 'Abdallah, member and deputy secretary of the Central Committee, and a number of brother officials.

SAUDI ARABIA

Paper on U.S. 'Credibility,' Mideast Conference

JN211550 AL-DAMMAM AL-YAWM in Arabic 19 Feb 87 p 7

[Editorial: "The U.S. Credibility"]

[Text] By rejecting the idea of convening an international conference to resolve the Palestine question, Yitzhaq Shamir reaffirms the familiar Israeli prevarication because the international conference would corner Israel in positions it cannot justify. It would also expose Israel to the world even more no matter how hard Washington tries to cover up for the aggressive Israeli behavior against human and world conscience. Washington's flaccidity regarding the international conference to establish peace in the Middle East is part of the United States cover-up for Zionist actions.

However, the Israeli rejection and U.S. flaccidity will not succeed in assassinating the Palestine question which will live on and remain a symbol of human rebellion against expansion, aggression, and oppression. King Husayn of Jordan believes that Washington has lost its credibility with regard to the Middle East issue. This is the conviction of all Arab leaders and peoples because the Arabs cannot place their trust in a country that gives their enemy all the justifications to expand its aggression and oppress their brothers who merely ask for their natural rights and land. Washnington even places obstacles in the path of all solutions that might resolve the Middle East issue. What is left of its credibility?

If Washington continues to heed and apply Israeli advice, the U.S. Administration will not merely lose its credibility; Israel might entangle it in bloody conflicts and confrontations just as it is now entangled in facing the world conscience with regard to the Palestine question. This means that Israel is willing to entangle the United States, a superpower with 250 million people, in actions that will serve Zionist ambitions and consequently create a worldwide hostility toward the American people as it has done before. The international conference will not give the Soviets an important role in Middle East affairs as Washington contends, nor will it give Moscow more influence than it already has. However, the U.S. behavior in the Middle East and continuous, blind U.S. support for Zionist aims will give Moscow a valuable opportunity to expand and entrench its influence in the Middle East. This might happen when the Arabs finally reject U.S. credibillity. The Jordanian king's statements express a practical beginning to the conviction that Washington is not seeking a solution to the Middle East issue.

Report on Anti-Libya Military Plan 'Unfounded'

NC202001 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1950 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA) — MENA has learned the report published by the U.S. newspaper *The Washington Post* today about a joint U.S.-Egyptian military plan connected with Libya is unfounded. Such a plan would not be in keeping with Egyptian policy or with Egypt's clear and declared principles regarding this issue.

IMF Accord Announcement Expected in a 'Few Days'

NC211125 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 21 Feb (MENA) — MENA has learned Egypt and the IMF have agreed in principle on the letter of intent the IMF will give Egypt, which will enable the latter to reschedule its debts with creditor states. Announcement of the final agreement on the results reached by the two sides is expected in the next few days.

MENA's economic reporter has also learned this letter of intent confirms the soundness of the Egyptian economy and its ability to pay its debts. An agreement in principle has also been reached to provide Egypt with an initial $300-million loan. Further financing will be discussed later.

A delegation of IMF experts arrived in Cairo last month to continue the talks, which have been going on for 7 months, to reach an agreement between Egypt and the IMF. The letter of intent Egypt wishes to obtain from the IMF will reassure the creditor states of the soundness of its economy. This will lead to the rescheduling of Egyptian debts by these countries and provide Egypt with grace periods. It will also help bring about adjustments to the interest rates on these debts.

Further on Visit by Sudanese Prime Minister

Meets Opposition Party Leaders

NC201109 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0915 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA) — Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi received the leaders of the Egyptian opposition parties this morning. The meeting took place at Al-Mahdi's residence in the Al-Tahirah Palace.

In a statement following this meeting, Al-Ummah Party leader Ahmad al-Sabahi said the conferees reviewed those principles and ideas about which there is mutual agreement to serve the interests of both peoples. He also explained his party's position regarding the elections, which it will enter on an independent ticket. He stressed his party's support for the idea of a brotherhood charter, the attainment of which he has long desired. He hoped the principles of this charter will be put into force soon to serve the interests of the two peoples.

Notes 'Contradictions' in Ties

JN201751 Khartoum SUNA in English 1710 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo Feb 20 (SUNA) — Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi currently on a state visit to Egypt said the Sudanese-Egyptian relations had been marred by contradictions between the popular aspiration and the reality.

In a symposium organized [by] the faculty of economics of Cairo University Al-Mahdi said we can develop our bilateral relations through our African affiliations and compromise them. Al-Mahdi called for finding out a correct new formula on which to be based the particular relations between the Sudan and Egypt.

Discusses Charter With Sidqi

NC201944 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Egypt and Sudan will resume their talks at the prime minister's office tomorrow. The Egyptians will be led by Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi and the Sudanese by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, the prime minister of Sudan. Dr Sidqi held a working luncheon today in honor of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and his accompanying delegation.

Dr Sidqi has stated the two fraternal countries are in complete agreement on the draft brotherhood charter between them. This charter will be submitted to the parties and people of both countries for approval. He said the two sides held continuous meetings today at the experts' level to discuss all of the details pertaining to the brotherhood charter. A joint communique will be issued at the conclusion of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's visit containing a general outline of the brotherhood charter.

Dr Sidqi also said a high-level delegation will visit Sudan in return for this visit. On the two countries' economic relations, Dr Sidqi said the protocol currently being implemented has increased trade and expanded the scope of bilateral economic and technical cooperation.

Meanwhile, Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has declared the principles of the proposed brotherhood charter between Egypt and Sudan were formulated following careful study and thorough discussion. He said: A Sudanese committee discussed the plan for regulating relations that has been termed the brotherhood charter, and submitted specific points on our Islamic, Arab, African, and international commitments and the two countries cultural relations. Thus, preparations for the charter were thorough. He continued: We expect it will achieve definite results, and will do so with the support, approval, and cooperation of the Sudanese people and not in their absence, as happened in the past. He expressed his hope the special Egyptian-Sudanese committee will soon complete its study of all aspects of the draft charter, in preparation for its announcement and implementation, as this will benefit both Nile valley peoples, in the north and south. Al-Mahdi made these remarks in a special interview he gave to our colleague Siham al-Buluk, which will be broadcast in full during the fifth news bulletin at 2300 today.

Meets AAPSO Members

NC211047 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi met with members of AAPSO's Egyptian Committee this morning. Speaking of the challenges facing Sudan, Al-Mahdi said Sudan has learned important lessons from its past and discovered the value of democracy as a system of government. Dictatorship made changes that had a major impact on life in Sudan, he said, but failed to develop the country.

Signs Brotherhood Charter

NC211509 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 21 Feb (MENA) — Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi and Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi signed a Brotherhood Charter at the conclusion of their talks today. Here is the text of the Charter:

The Brotherhood Charter Between Egypt and Sudan preamble:

Egypt and Sudan share a special, predestined relationship embodied by the immortal Nile River, heritage of civilization, common struggle, and strategic interests. Proceeding from this fact; expressing the will of the Egyptian and Sudanese people to achieve their common aspirations; reasserting the special relationship that links both peoples, embodied in the same creed, history, culture, blood, source of life, and the fact that Egypt constitutes Sudan's extension in the north and Sudan Egypt's extension in the south; and fulfilling the historic responsibility of the Egyptian and Sudanese peoples under the umbrella of democratic progress embodied by the pioneering democratic experience in Egypt and Sudan, democracy based on respect for the people's role, belief in human rights, respect for basic rights, establishment of institutions that express the people's will, respect for constitutions and law through democratic practice enjoyed by the sons of the Nile valley and the democratic system that joins them, particularly after the creative transformation accomplished by the popular uprising in Sudan and the resulting correction in the course of Sudan's internal affairs and external policy; both peoples agree to promulgate the Brotherhood Charter between Egypt and Sudan to strengthen these values. This Charter is considered the first step toward answering our peoples' aspirations for brotherhood and unison.

Basic principles:

1. Proceeding from their Arab affiliation and their concern for solidarity among the Arab peoples and countries, both Egypt and Sudan stress the need to achieve these goals for the cause of the Arab nation's peace, development, progress, and stability.

2. On the African level, both countries will continue to work and exert the utmost effort to oppose the policy of racial discrimination and to bring about decolonization. They will act to strengthen cooperation and solidarity among the African peoples to achieve their goals of development and stability, as well as to work to support Arab-African cooperation. Special efforts will be made to bring about cooperation and coordination among the Nile Basin countries, to promote the river's resources, regulate its use, and protect its waters.

3. On the Islamic level, both countries will work to consolidate the solidarity among the peoples of the Islamic nation, thus participating in its great awakening while playing a pioneer role in this sphere.

4. On the international level and based on the policy of nonalignment, both countries will work to support the cause of world peace and security. They will work to establish an equitable international economic system and cooperation among the Third World countries so security and development might be achieved and they might assert their participation in the issues of world peace.

Common strategic interests:

The relations between Egypt and Sudan are distinguished from any other relations between countries by already established unique characteristics. In addition, they share common interests in a number of vital fields. This necessitates the employment of both countries' available resources, particularly those are not fully exploited, in consolidating both their economies and comprehensive development plans. This is to be done by coordinating these plans in a manner serving the higher interests of both peoples to give priority to meeting the needs of agricultural and industrial products. By regarding the economic institutions, whether they are joint ventures or owned by the sons of the valley, as a higher priority for both peoples, energies can be properly invested and an atmosphere of stability and continuity can be created.

In this regard, both countries are to act toward the following goals:

In the economic field:

1. Giving priority to agricultural and industrial projects which serve the highest possible number of citizens, particularly those which provide the essential needs of both peoples;

2. Making optimal use of the fruits of knowledge from scientists, technicians, and specialists in both countries, in addition to their respective economic and scientific studies in the various fields.

In the field of culture and education:

Both countries should work together to provide all possible opportunities to raise the educational, cultural, and technological standards in both countries. They should work to provide the scientific and technical cadres that will contribute effectively to achieving economic and social development through bilateral cooperation aimed at consolidating the role of educational, scientific, and cultural institutions. This can be achieved through:

1. Preserving the integrity of the cultural heritage in both countries;

2. Linking education to comprehensive development plans.

In the field of information and youth:

1. Strengthening the role of the media to bolster brotherly ties and make each country knowledgeable about the other;

2. Establishing sophisticated communications channels to guarantee the easy flow of information between both peoples;

3. Creating links of communication and knowledge between both countries' youth, because they represent the hope of both peoples.

In the field of health services:

Continuing close cooperation between both countries in the field of health care and the manufacture of medicine.

In the field of communication and transport:

1. Establishing a network of roads and developing and improving river transportation;

2. Facilitating routes of telegraphic, telephone, and radio communication.

The established characteristics and common strategic interests that mark Egyptian-Sudanese relations make it necessary for both states to explore new horizons to bolster their ties and develop them in a manner that brings about common and mutual benefits for both peoples.

Joint political action vis-a-vis southern Sudan:

The Egyptian side expressed its understanding of the problem of southern Sudan, and its desire that the problem be solved through Sudanese efforts only. In this regard, the Egyptian side supports the Sudanese Government's efforts to convene a national constitutional conference. For its part, the Sudanese side supports Egypt's good offices in contributing to the settlement of the problem of the south and to the region's stability.

International and regional issues:

The Arab nation:

Egypt and Sudan welcome each country's initiatives to clear the Arab atmosphere to implement Arab solidarity.

The Middle East:

The two sides view Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination as the basis for achieving a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. Therefore, Egypt and Sudan consider an international peace conference on the Middle East as the best way to reach this goal. They view the representation and participation of the PLO as necessary and vital to achieve a comprehensive settlement, as the PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Egypt and Sudan also appeal to the Palestinian people to unite.

The Gulf war:

The two sides express their profound regret that that war has continued and thus inflicted grave human losses as well as economic and financial woe, on the entire Islamic society. In accordance with the Islamic faith, which calls for peace, the Egyptian and Sudanese sides call for an immediate end to this war and support all the efforts being made for a peaceful solution to this problem.

The Lebanese crisis:

Both parties condemn the foreign interference in Lebanon's domestic affairs, which has led to the current disintegration of the situation and kept the crisis unresolved. They condemn the inhuman siege imposed on the Palestinian camps and call on the foreign parties to withdraw from Lebanon immediately and leave the Lebanese people alone to exercise their right of sovereignty throughout their country.

The Chadian problem:

Egypt supports the Sudanese efforts aimed at establishing peace in Chad and stopping foreign intervention to safeguard the unity and independence of Chad's territory and the region's stability.

The problem of South Africa and Namibia:

Both parties will consult with each other or with other sides to put an end to the racial policy pursued by the racist Pretoria government. They believe the struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia are legitimate and authentic and stem from the African people's rejection of subservience and racism.

The issue of foreign debts:

Both countries will work in a coordinated and cooperative fashion in their dealings with the outside world to alleviate the severity of the debts issue and help to implement their development plans.

Ways to implement the charter:

To follow up and implement the basic principles of the Brotherhood Charter and the joint political goals, a joint higher committee will be formed under the prime ministers of Egypt and Sudan. The committee will be composed of specialized ministers, the number of which will be agreed upon by both chairmen of the committee. The committee will meet at least once every 6 months and alternate its venue between Egypt and Sudan.

Within this framework, the two countries will hold intensive consultations through both diplomatic channels and technical bodies, which will be informed of all topics submitted to the joint higher committee. The higher committee may form subcommittees to study any subject as necessary.

Signed in Cairo on Saturday 22 Jumada al-Akhir of the Hegira, corresponding to 21 February 1987.

Confers With Mubarak

NC220959 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held private talks with Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi for 1 and 1/2 hours today. They reviewed the outcome of talks conducted during Al-Mahdi's visit.

MENA has learned President Mubarak and Prime Minister al-Mahdi stressed in their final session of talks the need to further all aspects of bilateral cooperation on the popular level. Al-Mahdi is to leave Cairo this afternoon.

Holds News Conference

NC221657 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) — Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has described the Brotherhood Charter signed between Egypt and Sudan yesterday as broader and deeper in meaning than words could express. He stressed this charter not only describes the special relations between the two fraternal countries, but also goes beyond this to involve the brotherhood that ties the two nations together.

In a news conference he held this afternoon at the conclusion of his visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt, Al-Mahdi expressed the hope the historical points contained in the Brotherhood Charter would be further realized, adding that for this brotherhood to completely materialize both countries would have to work hard on its infrastructure and base.

Prime Minister al-Mahdi praised President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and noted the president's meeting with him opened the door and gave the green light for all positive achievements made at all levels during the visit. He also lauded the response and understanding the Egyptian officials showed the members of the Sudanese delegation. He expressed his thanks to the Egyptian Government, its people, and its parties for the extremely brotherly hospitality accorded him and his accompanying delegation, and for the sincere and heartfelt feelings expressed by the Egyptians. He noted the spontaneous and sincere response of the Egyptian people, which clearly showed on their bright smiling faces. He added: This was met by mutual heartfelt feelings and a complete response on our part.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi emphasized the overwhelming feelings expressed to him and his accompanying delegation represent a sign of Egyptian appreciation to the Sudanese people, and to their revolution and movement, which represent the hope of the Sudanese people for a better present and a bright future.

The Sudanese prime minister explained the infrastructure needed for this brotherhood requires tangible progress in the fields of communications and transport, as well as the availability of funds needed to finance the required projects. He described Egyptian and Sudanese food imports as a defect that must be rectified, adding something must be done because it cannot be left this way. He noted that during his talks with President Mubarak and Dr 'Atif Sidqi, he agreed on the need to give priority to this matter so a plan for food self-sufficiency could be drawn up within two years. He added: All the capabilities in this field are available; what we need is the will, planning, and management for it. Al-Mahdi also noted what he called 'a gap in acquaintance' between the Egyptian and Sudanese people and stressed the need to fill this gap as soon as possible. He went on to say: Our peoples need to know each other better, which would make us aware of each other's political, economic, and other currents. He called on the media and the cultural institutions to highlight all activities in both Egypt and Sudan, so the Sudanese people would not be unfamiliar with the Egyptians or vice versa.

Regarding the Gulf war, the Sudanese prime minister said his country is making efforts to end this war and has covered two-thirds of its initiative on the road to remedying the situation. He noted the Islamic ulema must exert an effort to surmount the inevitable long-term aftermath of the war and reconcile the Sunnis and the Shi'ites. He pointed out he had talked about this issue with the Egyptian officials and the imam of the Al-Azhar as well as the Sudanese ulema. He hoped a charter would be concluded to remove the reasons for separation and conflict among the Islamic sects.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi then touched on the Arab solidarity issue. He pointed out two points must be concluded before a minimum Arab solidarity is reached: The Arabs must be committed to a plan, and they must reach a common decision. In this respect, Al-Mahdi stressed solidarity is a pressing need essential to every country and within our grasp. He went on to say: Sudan has a reasonable plan in this respect, and it has been discussed with some parties, but must be discussed further until an acceptable view is attained.

Al-Mahdi added: Taking into consideration the changes that have occurred in the world, particularly the Arabs' contacts with various parties, the Arabs have a duty to exploit these changes to end the rift among themselves so that Arab rights and sanctities might be protected.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi called for more support for the liberation movements in southern Africa, particularly in the Frontline States. He added the establishment of a system [not further specified] agreed upon by the nine Nile Basin countries is an important and essential matter.

Regarding the debts of the developing countries, Al-Mahdi called for discussing this issue as an international problem that must be solved. He added cooperation is needed to find a way out of the heavy burden of indebtedness.

Concluding his press statement, which was followed by a question-and-answer period, the Sudanese prime minister appealed to the Egyptian and Sudanese peoples and parties to support the brotherhood as a step forward on a long road. He added the Charter has now become something tangible, to which both the Egyptian and Sudanese legitimate governments are committed before the world.

In response to a question on the Brotherhood Charter, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said it had been discussed by the two countries until they both agreed on it. He called on both countries' parties to discuss the Charter and ensure its public support.

Asked about the situation in the south of Sudan, Al-Mahdi pointed out the secular trend in the south does not deny Sudan's Arab, Islamic, and African role. He noted the southerners do not want Islam and Arabism to be imposed on them by force and the government shares their view in this respect. He added a plan ensuring the various cultural and ethnic trends can be formulated within the framework of maintaining Sudan's unity. He expressed the belief the national constitutional conference soon to be held in Sudan will formulate a plan that can handle all these issues in a satisfactory way for all parties concerned.

In response to a question on the situation in Lebanon and Chad, Al-Mahdi said his country had appealed to all the parties concerned in Lebanon to end the tragedy there. He noted his country condemned the war in the [Palestinian] camps and the siege imposed on the starving people there. Al-Mahdi mentioned his country's initiative to remedy the situation in Chad and said this initiative, supported by Egypt, has made some progress. The initiative calls for ending the war and for not providing any military facilities to any party to prevent any escalation in the fighting.

Regarding the Eritrean problem, Al-Mahdi said the Brotherhood Charter stressed the need to maintain peace on the Horn of Africa and called for cooperation to end the regional dispute. He hoped a peace agreement would be reached among all the states overlookingthe Red Sea.

Concludes Visit, Departs

NC221525 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1505 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 22 Feb (MENA) — Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and his delegation left Cairo this afternoon after a 5-day official visit to Egypt, during which Al-Mahdi met with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to discuss issues of concern to their countries and the Arab world. [passage omitted]

Additional Communiques, Reports on Gulf War

'Large Maritime Target' Hit

JN201743 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Communique No 2,579 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 20 February 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces affirm daily, through their heroic activities, their readiness and capability to preserve Iraq's territory and sovereignty as well as its people's choices, and to impose their absolute control over all areas of operations. The following is a summary of the activities of last night and today:

1. To prevent the charlatans' regime in Tehran from exploiting its economic resources to perpetuate the war, and to confirm Iraq's ability to destroy all means of aggression, our gigantic Air Force launched a successful raid on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast and dealt it an accurate, effective blow at 1135 [0835 GMT] today. After carrying out their mission, our aircraft returned safely to the homeland in God's care and protection.

2. Our victorious units in the III Army Corps sector continued to direct intensive fire from artillery, tanks, and other weapons at the enemy positions in front of them. They silenced a number of enemy fire sources; killed 25 personnel; destroyed 3 shovels [preceding word in English], 10 various emplacements, and 2 vehicles; and burnt a number of ammunition dumps.

3. Our brave men in the VII Army Corps sector continued their heroic activities, inflicting more losses in personnel and equipment on the scoundrel Khomeyniites. They burnt 6 vehicles, 3 of which were loaded with personnel; destroyed 1 mortar; set ablaze 4 ammunition dumps and 1 shovel [preceding word in English]; and seized 19 Kalashnikovs and 1 medium machine gun, which the enemy left behind.

4. A brave force from units of our II Army Corp central sector launched a lightning attack against a number of the enemy positions in front of them. The force occupied the enemy positions, killed 30 enemy personnel, wounded many others, and seized a quantity of serviceable equipment and weapons.

In another area in the same sector, seven enemy personnel were killed and two emplacements were destroyed. Blessed be the brave men in the heroic II Army Corps.

5. A vehicle was set ablaze, and two observation posts and one ammunition dump were destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

6. The despotic clique shelled residential areas in the city of Al-Zubayr with long-range artillery. As a result, one child and another civilian were wounded.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 February 1987

Lloyds: Iranian Tanker Hit

JN231435 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1340 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] London, 23 Feb (INA) — The British insurance company Lloyds today announced that an Iranian oil tanker was attacked by Iraqi fighter planes near the Iranian coast last Thursday evening. Lloyds told the INA office in London a short while ago that the Iranian oil tanker (*"Taftan"*), which weighs 883 tons, was attacked at 2030 last Thursday while carrying oil 20 miles south of Khark. Lloyds added the Iranian oil tanker's engine room was severely damaged and flooded with water up to 6 meters.

An Iraqi military spokesman announced last Thursday evening that Iraqi fighter planes dealt a direct and effective blow to a very large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

Communique No 2,580

JN211748 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Communique No 2,580 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 21 February 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Through their marvellous steadfastness in the face of the unjust covetous people, their heroic epics, and their successive victories, our valiant Armed Forces across the battlefields epitomize Iraq's great power and its growing capability to defend the chaste homeland and defeat the renegade enemies. The following are the overall activities for last night and today:

1. In a desparate attempt to attack the Al-'Amiq Port, the enemy dispatched a number of its boats. However, our brave soldiers, the valiant lions of the sea, confronted them and repulsed the enemy's attempt, sinking one boat with its occupants and damaging another. The remainder of the boats fled. The enemy dispatched other boats in a second attempt to support its deteriorating position, but the lions of the sea confronted them and forced them to flee from the fire of the brave lions of the sea, the loyal guards of our territorial waters. O brave men of our Navy, may God bless you. Carry out further violent blows to defeat the scoundrels.

2. With their determination and loyalty, our valiant forces continue to fire their various weapons on the scoundrels opposite our units in the III Army Corps sector, killing 39 enemy personnel and wounding others, destroying 2 vehicles and 1 boat, destroying 5 infantry positions and 1 observation post and killing a number of the scoundrels in them, destroying 1 heavy machine gun and killing those manning it, and destroying 2 ammunition dumps.

3. An enemy unit estimated at one infantry company tried to approach the positions occupied by our valiant forces as stated in Communique No 2,579, issued yesterday, in the II Army Corps. However, our brave men confronted them with their weapons, killing 20 and wounding others. The remainder of the scoundrels fled, chased by the fire of our capable artillery. One enemy tank was destroyed, a quantity of the enemy's serviceable weapons were seized, and two observation posts were destroyed in the same

sector. May God bless our men, the soldiers of the heroic II Army Corps.

4. Our brave units on the VII Army Corps front fired on enemy units, destroying four shovels [preceeding word in English], destroying one vehicle, destroying one heavy machine gun, blowing up four ammunition dumps, and destroying three infantry positions.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 February 1987

Hawr al-Huwayzah Battle Denied

JN221620 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Feb (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims about a battle taking place in Hawr al-Huwayzah. The military spokesman told INA a short while ago that these claims are false in part and parcel, and he affirmed that no battle took place in that area during that period.

Communique No 2,581

JN221723 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Communique No 2,581 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 22 February 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our great people and their valiant Armed Forces, who have made noble principles their aim and guidance on the path of pride and peace, are continuing their victories and steadfastness. However, the charlatans in Iran will reap from their aggression only calamities, weakness, and the wrath of God and people. The following are the overall activities for last night and today:

1. Our victorious units in the III Army Corps sector used artillery, tanks, and infantry weapons to pound the enemy positions and engineering works opposite our units, killing 25 enemy soldiers and the wounding others; destroying 9 infantry positions, 1 gun emplacement, and killing their occupants; destroying 3 various machine guns; destroying 4 vehicles and a shovel [preceding word in English]; and burning 2 ammunition dumps.

2. Our valiant forces in the VII Army Corps sector delivered intense blow using all types of weapons against the enemy units opposite our units and against the enemy mortar positions and communication routes, killing 15 scoundrels; burning 10 ammunition dumps; destroying 3 large vehicles, one of them a personnel carrier; destroying 10 infantry positions and 3 gun emplacements; and destroying one shovel [preceding word in English].

3. Our units in the I Army Corps sector, the special Allahu Akbar Forces, delivered painful blows to the enemy positions opposite our units, inflicting important losses in life and equipment on them. Elsewhere in the sector, an enemy heavy machine gun and infantry position were destroyed.

4. One enemy soldier was killed and one personnel position destroyed in IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 February 1987

Communique No 2,582

JN231816 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Commuigue No 2,582 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 February 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Known for their honest faith in God, for their absolute confidence that truth will triumph over falsehood, for their bravery in chopping off the rotten Khomeyniite heads, for their defense of the homeland and its sacred places and its history, for their current achievements, and for legitimate and honest future aspirations, our victorious Armed Forces are continuing their activities. The results of the activities of last night and today are as follows:

1. Since 1945 [1645 GMT] yesterday, the enemy has carried out a series of operations in an attempt to approach our units on the Jasim River line. Our brave Armed forces confronted the enemy forces with artillery, tank, and mortar barrages, as well as with other types of weapons, inflicting very heavy losses in personnel, equipment, and weapons on the Khomeyniites. Thousands of enemy bodies were scattered on the battlefield as a result of blows dealt to the enemies with our deadly weapons and as a result of the intensive, expanded air support by our heroic Air Force and the fighter planes of the brave Army.

2. Squadrons of planes of our gigantic Air Force today attacked the scoundrel Khomeyniites in the operation sectors to inflict the punishment they deserve. Our fighter planes destroyed many of their troops, weapons, equipment, and vehicles in 177 combat missions. Challenging the enemy's air defenses, our fighter planes attacked three Hawk surface-to-air missile batteries, which the Zionists have provided for their agents in Iran.

The first battery, in the Karun River area, was destroyed at 0700 today. The second, east of Khorramshahr, was destroyed at 0930 today. The third, in the Khorramshahr area, was destroyed at 1245 today. After carrying out their missions, our fighter planes returned safely to their bases in God's care.

3. The brave knights of the helicopters today carried out daring raids on the scoundrels in the operation sectors, killing many troops and destroying their weapons, equipment, and vehicles. They carried out 132 combat missions and returned to their bases safely in God's care.

4. An enemy force of two infantry detachments tried to approach one of our units in the II Army Corps central sector, but our heroic men confronted it with various weapons and forced it to flee, leaving a number of dead and wounded soldiers. Four enemy personnel were killed and one infantry position was destroyed in another area of the same sector. Our brave patrols in the same

sector seized the following weapons left by the enemy in no-man's-land during the recent battles: 30 GC rifles, 19 Kalashnikov rifles, 8 GC machine guns, 10 RPG-7 launchers, and quantities of serviceable equipment.

5. Our brave men in the VII Army Corps operation sector continue to deal painful blows to the scoundrel aggressors with intensive artillery, mortar, and infantry weapons fire, killing 20 persons and wounding others; destroying 11 infantry positions and killing or wounding those manning them; destroying 2 shovels [preceeding word in English] and 1 large vehicle; destroying 19 ammunition dumps; destroying 2 observation posts; and starting fires on the enemy side.

6. The Zionist Iranian rulers shelled residential areas in the brave city of Basra last night and today with long-range artillery, martyring a number of citizens, wounding others, and causing damage to the properties of a number of citizens. Mercy and forgiveness to our martyrs and swift recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 February 1987

Iran Said To Violate Conditions of Bombing Halt

JN231054 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1032 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Statement by a spokesman of the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command dated 23 February 1987]

[Text] In response to the appeal by Mas'ud Rajavi to President Saddam Husayn and for humanitarian and principled reasons, the RCC had decided on 18 February 1987 to suspend bombardment of Iranian cities for 2 weeks as of 1200 [0900 GMT] on Thursday, 19 February 1987, on condition that the Iranian regime refrains from shelling residential areas of our cities, refrains from committing any aggression against our border, and demonstrates a clear stand compatible with international law and the five fair principles declared by our victorious leader on 8 August 1986 on the establishment of a just peace between the two countries.

We declare to our great people, to Arab and world public opinion, and to the Iranian peoples that it is clear that Iraq has fully abided by the RCC statement and completely refrained from bombing Iranian cities. As for the Iranian side, it has violated two of the conditions that Iraq set for suspending its bombardment of Iranian cities. These two violations are:

1. The leader of the Iranian regime, Khamene'i, openly declared his rejection of the peace call and expressed his regime's insistence on pursuing the policy of aggression and shelling the cities.

2. Last night and today the Iranian regime committed a new crime against civilians in Basra. The Iranian regime fired 58 artillery shells at residential areas in Basra, resulting in the death and wounding of citizens and in damage to civilian property and installations.

We declare to our people and to public opinion that the Iranian regime has thus failed to abide by two of the just, humane, and fair conditions set in the said RCC statement.

[Dated] 23 February 1987

Military Ready to Bomb Anew

JN231838 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1710 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Statement by a spokesman of the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command dated 23 February 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. This statement supplements our statement issued this morning on the failure of the Iranian regime to abide by the principles adopted by the RCC and the Ba'th Party Regional Command in their joint meeting on 18 February 1987, which decided the following:

1. Iraq will stop bombing Iranian cities as of 1200 [0900 GMT] on Thursday, 19 February 1987, for a period of 2 weeks. Iraq will be absolved of this commitment and will resume bombing very strongly and on a larger scale than before if the Iranian regime's forces bomb Iraqi cities and residential areas and if the Iranian regime embarks on any new aggression against our territories and international borders.

2. This temporary suspension of the bombing of cities hinges upon the Iranian regime's stand on the issue of peace. Therefore, that regime should clearly and unequivocally express a new stand, consistent with international law and the five principles announced by President Saddam Husayn on 2 August 1986, by establishing a comprehenisve and lasting peace between the two countries during these 2 weeks.

3. This suspension, of course, will not apply to military targets and concentrations, economic targets, and targets directly or indirectly linked to the Iranian regime's hostile war efforts.

The citizens in our lofty Iraq, as well as Arab and international public opinion, recall this decision was made following President Saddam Husayn's meeting with Mas'ud Rajavi, leader of the Iranian Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization and chairman of the National Council of Iranian Resistance at noon on Tuesday, 17 February 1987. During this meeting, Mas'ud Rajavi asked the leader president on behalf of the Iranian masses and their forces struggling against the despotic Iranian regime to stop bombing Iranian cities.

We hoped the Iranian regime would respond to these just, humanitarian, and fair conditions for halting the shedding of blood, providing security for both countries, and creating new opportunities to establish peace based on justice. However, Iranian practices over the past few days have proved the contrary:

1. The so-called President Khamene'i, on behalf of the Iranian regime, announced the Iranian regime's rejection of this proposal and its insistence on pursuing aggression and on shelling cities without any sense of responsibility toward citizens and in a

manner confirming this regime's insistence on pursuing aggression and war and on bombing residential areas.

2. This was confirmed through the barbaric shelling of Basra last night and today with long-range artillery. The Iranian regime fired a total of 66 artillery shells, resulting in the death and injury of many civilians and damage to their properties.

3. At 1945 [1645 GMT] yesterday, the Iranian regime sent its forces to attack our units defending the Jasim River lines south of Al-Asmak Lake in a blatant and premeditated attack against our national soil and international borders, thus violating again the principles of international law and confirming that the Iranian regime has failed to abide by all Iraq's conditions for the suspension of its bombing of Iranian cities.

We point out these facts to our masses and their Armed Forces, to our Arab nation, and to world public opinion. This behavior clearly reaffirms that aggression continues to take place against our international borders and our national soil and that the Iranian regime also continues to shell residential areas. On the basis of all these facts, the Armed Forces are fully ready to implement the instructions of their command to safeguard the homeland by replying to the Khomeyniites' crimes in light of these developments and in accord with what national duty dictates.

The Iranian people are now fully convinced that responsibility for the horrors of the war and their oppression on the domestic level is to be shouldered by their criminal rulers before God and history, the rulers who do not fear God's punishment and who have not been deterred by their conscience.

[Dated] 23 February 1987

Popular Islamic Conference Council Meets in Iraq

JN220850 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] The meetings of the Executive Council of the Popular Islamic Conference Organization [Munazzamt al-Mu'tamar al-Islami al-Sha'bi] began in Baghdad this morning. During the next 3 days, the council will review what has been implemented of its work plan during the previous phase to expose the Zionist Iranian regime. The council will also review the results of its contacts with the Islamic countries.

The meetings began with a recital from the Holy Koran. Later, Minister of Awqaf and Religious Affairs 'Abdallah Fadil 'Abbas delivered a speech in which he welcomed the members of the council to Baghdad, the center of Islamic thought and the birthplace of thinkers, ulema, and mujtahids [religious men]. The minister added that the Islamic nation today faces serious challenges, the foremost being the aggression of the tyrannical Khomeyniite faction, which is allied with Zionism against the great Iraqi people, and the war of annihilation against the Palestinians in the camps in Lebanon.

The minister explained that the Popular Islamic Conference Organization, which has recently turned into an international conference for laying the foundations of serious Islamic action, is assuming major tasks in facing these challenges, exposing the aggressors, and mobilizing the Islamic peoples in support of just causes and legitimate defense of land, people, and principles.

Dr Ma'ruf al-Dawalibi, chairman of the Executive Council of the Popular Islamic Conference organization, made a speech praising the Iraqi Government's limitless aid to the organization to enable it to carry out its major Islamic responsibilities and noble mission.

Dr Bashshar 'Awwad Ma'ruf, secretary general of the organization, submitted a report on the general secretariat's work since the last meeting of the Executive Council in Baghdad last March. The report dealt with the contacts that the organization held in Baghdad and other capitals, with their results, and with their impact on the Iraq-Iran war in particular and Muslims' issues in general.

Saddam Husayn Addresses Council

JN221307 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
2023 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Speech by President Saddam Husayn to members of the Executive Council of the Popular Islamic Conference Organization in Baghdad; broadcast in a hookup with Baghdad Domestic Service; date not given — recorded]

[Text] Brothers, with great appreciation I receive you in Baghdad, which is yours. To you, Baghdad means great cultural and spiritual heritage, as well as glorious memories on the path of the lofty and holy Islamic reconstruction. Our pride in the Iraqi Armed Forces has increased when we see that this pride has gone beyond Iraq's borders and found an echo in the hearts and consciences of Muslims and Arabs everywhere. In fact, we have become tougher against injustice and in the defense of our policy, because it is a defense of sacred rights.

I tell you — and I hope I am accurate in what I am saying — that right from the beginning we have felt inside us and in our conscience and belief that we are fighting not only in defense of Iraq and Iraqi principles and rights, but also in defense of the Arabs. I also know very well that even non-Arabs see a close link between the dignity of Arabs, who are defending their principles, and the dignity of Islam. I tell you that we knew right from the beginning that we were defending Arabs and Muslims everywhere. This is because we are defending common, well-known principles. Iraqi territory belongs not only to Iraqis and Arabs, but also to Muslims in view of what it signifies. Moreover, it is a question of justice against falsehood; a defense against aggression.

Still, in view of the sublime principles we all believe in, we have always considered the fighting as compulsory and about which there is no choice. It is compulsory and was dictated by circumstances. Even while the fighting was going on and while we were firmly confronting aggression, we raised the banner of peace. Unfortunately, however, whenever we talked about peace, Iranian officials became more intransigent, thinking that our continuous talk about peace signified weakness. Whenever we talked about peace, they thought we were getting weaker. But we did not pay attention to that. All that concerned us was to be clear to the Arabs and Muslims and to free our consicience before God.

Certainly, we have calculated and still calculate what the Iranian rulers' unjust, intransigent stand would be 500 years hence, and how Iraq's stand of justice and peace, would strangle Iran's stand of falsehood and aggression after 500 years, 1,000 years, and even more than that.

Right from the beginning, we sensed the movement of Zionist fingers behind the aggression coming from the East. We felt that the false Islamic slogans they raised were only a cover, not a true Islamic call. How could an Islamic call aim first at Iraq. Iraq is a Muslim Arab country and a neighbor. The slogan against Iraq came even before Khomeyni took power officially. It was as if the intention was to use that slogan as a cover to enable the new trend to rise to power when it disclosed its hostility to Iraq, and consequently to Arabism and Islam. Still, I must admit before you and the Iraqis that I was among those members of the leadership who discounted the assumption that the Khomeyniites knew of their cooperation with Tel Aviv. I was inclined to believe that those who came to Iran after the conclusion of every arms deal — this information and copies of this information reached us before the disclosure of the scandal. [sentence as received] We identified the weapons. We were on the battlefield fighting and therefore knew every type of weapon that was used against our fighters from their planes. My brothers in the leadership used to say: We are sure they know the Zionists are supplying all these things. The odd thing here is that up to the last moment when the scandal was disclosed, I was still telling them — and Hamid [not further idnetified] was present at that meeting — that I did not think Khomeyni knew that he was dealing and cooperating with Zionism. It was at this point that we held the first meeting to discuss our position on the scandal. All my brothers were of the opinion that Khomeyni knew. That was their analysis. But I was saying that I believed that this man, who was more than 80 years old, must have read the Koran, and therefore must have considered that such a thing was not possible. They told me: You will discover soon that Khomeyni knew all the details. It is regrettable — but in a way also fortunate for Arabs and Muslims — that we later discovered that Khomeyni was indeed informed of all that had happened. Perhaps, God has willed that. God wanted to expose by documents what had been going on in whispers, and to show by evidence that this was a Zionist plan. God Almighty wanted to prove through documents, and to put on record for thousands of years, that Zionism was behind this stand.

After this, is there anyone in Iraq who is not proud of the fact that he is fighting in defense of Arabism, humanity, and all high values? I must tell you brothers that the battles were not easy or conventional. They were difficult and tough right from the beginning. But your Iraqi brothers sought inspiration from the sacred, good values of the Islamic mission, from Arab values, and also from the historic Arab role in defense of the human mission and Islam. Otherwise, under normal standards, the Iraqis should have been defeated by the suspect Zionist-Tartaric onslaught right from the beginning. I am telling you so you can rest fully assured that the Iraqis can repulse any aggression, even if the enemy came with double the number it used in all previous battles. This is because things are clear to the Iraqis. It is clear to them that they have a bigger role and a bigger stand. They know very well that if, God forbid, the solid Iraqi wall cracks, Arab and Muslim walls everywhere will crack. This is because the conspiracy — with its planning, intentions, and parties — is against more than Iraq. Every Iraqi must be equal to 10. God Almighty has willed that our number shall be 15 million. But we must fully mobilize our spiritual reserve so we can indeed be 1 to 10. I do not think that Zionism and its collaborators can hide the fact that each Iraqi is fighting 10 Iranians.

We cannot forget what you have said. You cannot give us regiments and divisions. But you have given us words of encouragement that are equivalent to the power of regiments and divisions, especially when they comes from a free conscience and a faithful heart. Sincere words from Arabs and Muslims everywhere such as I heard from you today are sufficient. After that we count on God Almighty. We have absolute, unshakeable confidence that God is with us.

God willing, this tribulation will become a a thing of the past, and you will come to Baghdad, and we will receive you here, and you will then talk about the past and about the present and future. I am confident that any 15 million Arabs or Muslims placed in our position and under the same circumstances would fight and resist with the same spirit as shown by the Iraqis. We did not want all this, but since it has taken place, we consider it God's way of testing the Iraqis' faith and ability to uphold the principles they believe in to the end and until they achieve peace, God willing. I would like to give you my full assurance — I believe you already feel reassured now that your Iraqi brothers have been fighting for 7 years. [sentence as heard] The last thing was that they beat the war drums from one end of Iran to the other. They thought that their numerical superiority would achieve their hostile objective. So they mobilized Iran from one end to the other. We prepared ourselves and we were confident of victory.

Still, we did not forget our humanitarian duty. We addressed a message to the Iranian rulers. We explained the situation and mentioned points about the war. We said that the correct path lies in five humanitarian principles. You will be free on your land and in your country, and we will be free on our land and in our country, and both of us will be positive elements in the stability and security of the Gulf region. Furthermore, there will be no interference in each other's internal affairs. They also considered this as a sign of weakness, although we told them that if you come, you will face your inevitable fate, God willing.

They massed their forces. They spoke about a million. Zionist propaganda said they massed a million to scare us. One is not scared by a million or parts of a million, but of weakness in spirit. One is either a martyr, in which case he attains the position wished by every man of principles, or he is lucky and comes out safe, in which case he lives a dignified life. Both positions are sought by the believer. Steadfastness and firmness are not generated by the number of planes and tanks — although God has advised preparation — but by belief in a just cause. Iraqis hold this belief, God be praised. The Islamic nation has thousands of examples, including children, women, old people, and young men. Whoever reads Islamic history will come across the examples set by true believers of the Islamic mission. They are examples of steadfastness, sacrifice, and heroism. When I now recall some of the names we heard during the past 7 years, they sound like Islamic names we read about in Islamic history, the same spirit and under the same conditions.

God be praised for everything. You should feel happy and reassured about everything in Iraq. God willing, falsehood will be defeated. It has been defeated right from the beginning, because it is wrong. Justice will triumph, God willing. It is only a question of time. Patience and readiness exist; readiness concerning both the requirements of confrontation and sacrifice. After that, it is only a question of time. The good ones will adhere to their stand and the bad ones will also adhere to theirs. But may God guide them on the right path. We hope God will guide the misled. God alone provides guidance. God decided the fate of certain people in the past. May God bless you. Say good words about your Iraqi brothers. It pleases us but also adds to our responsibilities. Additional responsibility is an honor, but it also has its impact when it is placed on the shoulders of free men. We pray to God to grant success in the service of our brother Arabs and Muslims. Peace be on you.

Named 'Man of Peace'

JN221518 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] The Executive Council of the Poular Islamic Conference Organization has decided to name President Saddam Husayn as a man of peace. In a statement issued at the conclusion of its meetings in Baghdad today, the council affirmed that giving this name to the president is in appreciation from the Islamic ulema for President Saddam Husayn's tremendous efforts to achieve peace and halt the shedding of Muslim blood, and for the soundness of his excellency's policy of addressing the Iranians and their rulers to instill reason in them and offer them just, honorable peace from a position of strength.

Husayn Receives Jordanian Information Minister

JN211231 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received Jordanian Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib. During the meeting, which was attended by Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim, bilateral relations were discussed.

Taha Yasin Ramadan Returns From Visit to PRC

JN201131 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Feb (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, returned to Baghdad this morning following an official 4-day visit to the PRC. Taha Yasin Ramadan told INA the Chinese leaders expressed their appreciation for and pride in the relations of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the PRC. He said officials in the friendly country view relations between their country and Iraq as strategic and principled, and they stressed their interest in continued support for these relations.

The RCC member described the results of his visit as positive and distinguished. He said that during the visit new bases were laid down for joint cooperation in political, economic, trade, popular, and vocational affairs. He pointed out that following talks held in a cordial atmosphere during the committee's fourth session, the two sides signed minutes for cooperation in economic, trade, technical, and scientific areas, as well as for the exchange of party, popular, and vocational delegations.

The first deputy prime minister said his talks with the Chinese leaders also dealt with relations of cooperation and friendship between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Chinese Communist Party and among popular and vocational organizations, as well as with the opportunity for the consolidation of relations between the two friendly countries. He added that the talks also dealt with developments of the Iraq-Iran war and that he briefed the leaders of the friendly country on the details of the Iranian aggression; on the motives behind the Iranian rulers' insistence on continuing and escalating their aggression; on their failure to respect the international community's will; and on their rejection of UN resolutions calling for a halt to the war and for peace.

He explained that the PRC leadership's stand on the war is in harmony with all peaceful efforts and that this leadership appreciates Iraq's repeated peaceful initiatives, its genuine response to peace endeavors, and its acceptance of international resolutions.

Taha Yasin Ramadan pointed out that the Chinese leaders praised the five principles contained in President Saddam Husayn's message to the Iranian rulers, as they are considered the correct bases for ending the Iraq-Iran war. The delegation that accompanied the first deputy prime minister comprised Muhammad Fadl Husayn, housing and reconstruction minister and head of the Iraqi side to the joint committee; the under secretaries of the Foreign and Irrigation Ministries; and representatives of a number of ministries.

Tariq 'Aziz Returns From Visits to Jordan, USSR

JN211707 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1648 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Feb (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Baghdad today after a 3-day visit to Jordan and the Soviet Union. During his visit to Jordan, he conveyed a verbal message from President Saddam Husayn to his brother King Husayn on the brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries, as well as on developments in the region, particularly those concerning the continuous Iranian aggression against Iraq. During his visit to the Soviet Union, 'Aziz also conveyed a verbal message from President Saddam Husayn to Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, stressing Iraq's concern for promoting friendly relations with the Soviet Union.

Cross-reference to USSR Visit

For reportage of the Tariq 'Aziz visit and talks in Moscow, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 20 February Soviet Union *Daily Report*and subsequent issues.

Reportage on Leaders' Meetings in Damascus

Statement After Meeting Al-Asad

NC210551 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] At 0115 today a statement was issued by Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies; Prime Minister Rashid Karami; former Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss; and Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt following their meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, in the presence of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm; Syrian People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi; and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. Here is the text of the statement:

In view of what West Beirut has been enduring for some days now in the bloody and ferocious fighting in various sections and streets, constituting a tragedy for its inhabitants and spreading fear, alarm, and destruction, we, Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies; Prime Minister Rashid Karami; Education and Labor Minister Salim al-Huss; Justice and Reconstruction Minister Nabih Birri; and Public Works and Tourism Minister Walid Junblatt, met in Damascus on 20 February 1987 and discussed the situation in West Beirut. We have decided:

1. To call for an immediate halt to fighting and for the withdrawal of all gunmen from the streets;

2. To call on fraternal Syria to provide military assistance to contribute to the establishment of security and stability and the restoration of calm to the city;

3. To form a security force of Lebanese regular forces and Syrian military forces to establish security and order, apply the law, normalize the situation in the city, and enable the state's institutions to carry out their work. In consultations with the defense and interior ministers, the prime minister will issue a decision on the command of this force;

4. To dissolve all armed militias in West Beirut, close their offices and headquarters, and close all offices and headquarters of parties and organizations;

5. To ban all weapons in West Beirut, confiscate such weapons, and refer the violators to military justice;

6. To give the security force responsibility for guarding public institutions and utilities and embassies;

7. To give this force responsibility for maintaining the security of the roads leading to West Beirut from the south and the mountain;

8. To give the security force responsibility for ensuring the security of the airport and roads leading to it;

9. To give the command of the security forces the means to implement these decisions, work out the necessary practical plans and measures, and take all measures it deems suitable to ensure the implementation of these decisions.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received us, and we briefed his excellency on the serious situation in West Beirut. We asked him to respond to our request for Syrian military assistance to contribute to the implementation of our decisions, to restore normality, and to end the sedition, in fulfillment of its pan-Arab role in helping Lebanon during its current crisis.

His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad responded to our request, which represents the wishes of West Beirut. His excellency also emphasized Syria's eagerness to provide assistance and support to the fraternal Lebanese people to overcome the pains they are suffering as a result of the fighting that has drained Lebanon and caused pain and tragedy to the Lebanese.

We thanked His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad for his response and for the fraternal sentiment he has expressed toward Lebanon and the Lebanese. We appeal to all the [word indistinct] forces which are present in West Beirut to respond immediately to the cease-fire agreement and to implement these decisions.

Officials Meet Khaddam, Comment

JN211244 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met with Husayn al-Husayni, [speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies]; Rashid Karami, [Lebanese prime minister]; and Salim al-Huss, [Lebanese minister of labor and education] today. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended the meeting, which ended a few moments ago.

Al-Husayni stated that there was a discussion of the steps to be taken following yesterday's step. He added: Other meetings will take place in Damascus, Beirut, and anywhere to follow up the subject. He also said: The operation is not easy. All efforts are being made now to implement what was agreed upon. The next meetings will crystallize all the steps.

Prime Minister Karami stated: When we met with President Hafiz al-Asad yesterday, we appealed to his excellency to send Syrian military forces to Lebanon to stand alongside the legitimate forces to control the situation and withdraw the weapons. The response to our appeal was complete. Karami added: I call on everyone to cooperate with the new security trend in sympathy with the people who have suffered a great deal.

Answering a question on when the Syrian forces will enter West Beirut, Karami said: I am now leaving for Beirut to follow up the situation and to lay down all the arrangements contained in last night's agreement. Karami and Minister Salim al-Huss have just left for Beirut.

Al-Huss: Syrian Force 'Only' Way To Save Beirut

NC211703 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Rashid Karami and [former Prime Minister] Salim al-Huss arrived in Beirut this afternoon after holding contacts in the Syrian capital.

Responding to a question upon arrival on the decision to utilize a Syrian force in restoring security, Al-Huss said: This was the only available way of saving Beirut, Lebanon, and the national issue. Both Beirut and the destiny of Lebanon were being razed by the gunmen's blind fighting. To ward off such a national, social, and humanitarian catastrophe, we had no other alternative but to ask for direct military help from Syria. Therefore, we stress that everyone must fully cooperate to ensure the success of this plan, to broaden the horizons of national reconciliation, and to rectify the political, economic, and social path. [passage omitted]

Karami Justifies Syrian Move

NC211846 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Excerpt][Passage omitted] Following his return to Beirut, Prime Minister Karami said: We are expecting the Syrian forces to enter West Beirut within the next few hours. Together with the forces already there, they will cooperate and coordinate their actions to put the situation under control. He noted that anyone who rejects this does not want the salvation of and reassurance for the honest people of Beirut, who have been bearing the unbearable.

On the legality of the Syrian entry, Karami said: Legality emanates from this people. The entry of the Syrian force is not a development of the hour or the day. The Syrians entered in 1986 and they are still doing their duty. If the Syrian force is increased according to circumstances, the citizens need not request it every time as long as they are the source of all the powers that authorize the request.

To a question on whether international circumstances are involved in this request, Karami responded: No country can reject such support. What can any official from any country in the world possibly say in view of what the citizens of West Beirut are being subjected to?

Al-Jumayyil Returns; Chairs Security Meeting

NC210658 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil returned to Beirut this morning after concluding a European tour in which he held a series of talks with senior officials. Immediately after his return, Al-Jumayyil chaired a meeting attended by the heads of security departments. The meeting was devoted to the latest security developments and ongoing efforts to remedy the situation.

Says Security Plan 'Positive'

NC211158 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Sources close to the president of the Republic have quoted him as saying that the agreement reached yesterday on a security plan for West Beirut, entailing deployment of a Syrian force in the capital to achieve peace, is a positive sign. This step represents a prelude to a comprehensive security plan for greater Beirut that will save it from disintegration and chaos and restore its international bright image.

Not Consulted on Syrian Plan

JN211701 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Developments in Damascus and Beirut are today in the forefront of Arab and international events. In Damascus, a number of Lebanese leaders including Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, and Prime Minister Rashid Karami agreed with Syrian Leaders, particularly Syrian President Hafiz al-asad, on a new plan for Syrian military intervention in West Beirut to stop the fierce battles that have been raging since last Sunday in Beirut's residential areas between the Amal militias and the PSP and Communist Party militias.

Talks are continuing in Damascus between the Lebanese and Syrian sides to begin the implementation of what was agreed upon in the Syrian capital last night. PSP leader Walid Junblatt and Amal leader Nabih Birri are attending the talks. The agreement provides for the dispatch of a Syrian military force of 3,000 or 4,000 soldiers from the Syrian Special Forces to West Beirut to restore security and stability and to watch over the implementation of what was agreed upon regarding the withdrawal of fighters from the streets, the closure of military and party centers in West Beirut, and the protection of official institutions.

The Syrian forces in Lebanon have continued their preparations in the Al-Biqa' and Mount Lebanon to intervene, but have thus far not received orders to intervene in West Beirut. Amal sources have said the Syrian forces who will arrive in Beirut today will be stationed in a Lebanese Army barracks during the withdrawal of all fighters from the streets of West Beirut as of today until 23 February.

Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who returned to Beirut today, has urged — following his meeting with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus today — all the fighters in West Beirut to respect the decisions made by the Lebanese officials in Damascus to restore Lebanon's unity and sovereignty. With regard to the projected Syrian intervention, Karami said: Syria is meeting the request we made to the Syrian authorities to extend the necessary military assistance to restore security and stability to West Beirut. The Lebanese prime minister also said he is going to Beirut to prepare the necessary arrangements for the return of the Syrian forces to West Beirut.

It has been learned from an informed source in Beirut that no contact has been made with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil — who returned to Beirut today following a European tour — regarding the Syrian military intervention in West Beirut. The Lebanese source said there was no official military or political contact between Damascus and Beirut within that framework. Lebanese political circles have indicated that any Syrian military intervention in Lebanon must enjoy the approval of the Lebanese authorities; that is, the request for the entry of more Syrian forces into Lebanon and their return to West Beirut must be made by the Lebanese Cabinet at a special session chaired by the Lebanese president so that the Syrian intervention will be legal.

The Lebanese Army Command said the Syrians did not contact it with regard to the coordination of the strengthening of the Syrian military presence in West Beirut where a number of Syrian observers have been since June 1985. [passage omitted citing international newspaper report on the Lebanese fighting]

Says Intervention 'Unconstitutional'

NC211827 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Statement issued by the General Directorate of the Presidency on 21 February]

[Text] 1. The president of the Republic wishes to express his profound pain over the incidents that have taken place in the western sector of Beirut in the last few days. He shares the suffering of those who have been afflicted, as well as the repression, terrorism, and damage to life and property to which they have been subjected.

2. There is no cure for these incidents, and nothing will prevent their recurrence except adherence to the line adopted by the regime in accordance with its reconciliatory initiative. This initiative was declared on 1 August 1986 and has been continued through ongoing talks with various Lebanese leaders and Syrian officials. The initiative seeks to achieve national understanding and to revive the legitimate establishments in an effort to restore their security, political, and social roles.

3. While he appreciates the pressing human and tragic circumstances that have made some officials and leaders go directly to fraternal Syria for help in confronting the situation, the president of the Republic must put on record that this unilateral action [al-tafarrud] is unconstitutional. It will only deepen the estrangement and contribute to destroying legitimate decision-making elements. This is particularly true in view of the following:

A. The pressure inflicted by the issue does not prevent the cabinet from meeting to discuss the situation and to present a cure for it; that is, any cure which is legitimate and national.

B. The regime's contacts with Syrian officials have begun to evolve into a comprehensive plan of salvation from all the problems which exist in Lebanon.

4. The Presidency appeals to all leaders and to those concerned with this matter to return to meeting within the framework of constitutional establishments and to resume the national dialogue in an effort to reach complete understanding and thereby protect the country's unity and restore its security and stability.

Reports on Syrian Entry Into W. Beirut, Situation

Kan'an Ultimatum to 'Saboteurs'

NC211556 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Feb 87

["Text" of ultimatum from Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, head of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon, to gunmen in West Beirut on 21 February — announcer-read]

[Text] To all saboteur gangs who continue to pursue the line and plot of sabotage; To all the saboteurs who are exploiting the difficult conditions among the sons of Beirut;

We know these gangs very well. We know their nonnational background. We know their agentry to the Mossad and their perfidious 'Arafatist line. We know they are settling accounts with the aim of escalating the fighting and causing confusion. We warn and reject these groups, and stress we know their movements, inclinations, and objectives. We also stress we will deal with them both collectively and individually. They will have no cover after now, for their masks have fallen. They will be brought to account on behalf of the people of Beirut, and they will pay a heavy price for what their hands have committed.

[Signed] Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an

Armored Column Enters

NC221222 Paris AFP in English 1215 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Beirut, Feb 22 (AFP) — Advance units of a powerful Syrian armoured column entered Moslem-dominated West Beirut Sunday, as part of a pacification plan that met with strong opposition from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and other Christian leaders. A personnel carrier containing a dozen troops was seen entering the Lebanese capital from the strategic Khaldah crossroads, 16 kilometers (10 miles) to the south. A further 27 armoured vehicles, including Soviet-made T-54 tanks and more personnel carriers, arrived at the crossroads some three hours later, at 1:30 p.m. local time (1130 GMT). In the Druze-controlled mountains to the southeast, an armoured brigade of 60 T-54s, 40 personnel carriers and eight truck-mounted anti-aircraft guns was earlier reported to be rolling towards Beirut, under a Druze escort.

Syrians Take Up Positions

NC221251 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1221 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Syrian forces entered Beirut today and began their deployment, after advance units began assembling in the Khaldah area at 0915 today. At 1330 the force was joined by Syrian armored vehicles. These units travelled along two roads to Beirut: The first through Al-Azzuniyah, 'Ayn Zhalta, 'Ayn Darah, Al-Baruk, Bayt al-Din, Dayr al-Qamar, Al-Damur, and Khaldah; and the second through Sawfar, 'Alayh, Ba'ishmayh, 'Aramun, and Khaldah. These forces consist of 100 T-52 [as heard] tanks, 100 armored vehicles, and trucks and jeeps. The 3,500-man force includes 450 personnel from the artillery battalion, which was stationed in the Hammana Barracks. According to the latest reports, some of the Syrian force has advanced toward Al-Awza'i and taken over a checkpoint from the Amal Movement. The force then proceeded along the road from the Al-Awza'i checkpoint to Beirut Airport via a road newly built for military vehicles and from the Al-Atharat area. A number of Syrian vehicles have taken up positions in the area of Radio Orient.

A Syrian military source has said part of the Syrian force will take up positions along the airport road. Another will go to the military barracks and remain there until the prime minister asks them to deploy in areas he and the appropriate ministers define. Information sources in the Amal Movement cite Syrian security circles as saying the number of Syrian forces arriving in West Beirut cannot be predetermined, because the goal is to rescue Beirut and Lebanon. These sources said the number of units arriving in Beirut is far greater than observers' estimates. The forces may total 10,000 soldiers.

More on Syrian Deployment

NC221424 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Excerpts] According to the latest reports on the entry of Syrian Forces into West Beirut, these forces are still in Al-Awza'i awaiting a decision on delineation of their deployment positions in the capital. Other units have deployed in Al-'Abbadiyah, Bshamun, and the Al-Dawhah hills. [passage omitted]

Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of security and surveillance in the Syrian forces, has supervised the Syrian forces' deployment in the Khaldah triangle and told journalists that the security plan will involve all of West Beirut, including the southern suburb. Brig Gen Kan'an asked gunmen to withdraw, reiterating that the Syrian forces will quell every violation of the cease-fire. Meanwhile, citizens continue rushing to the Al-Awza'i area to welcome the vanguards of the Syrian forces. They are carrying slogans welcoming the forces and President al-Asad's response to the Lebanese request to end the dreadful crisis.

Kan'an Ultimatum to Gunmen

NC221516 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1445 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Telephone interview with Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of security and surveillance in the Syrian Forces in Lebanon, by a radio correspondent in Beirut — live]

[Text] [Correspondent] Your Excellency, Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an. Sir, do you have anything new regarding the deployment of the Syrian force?

[Kan'an] The force is almost ready to take up positions. However, before deployment begins, I would like to issue an ultimatum to the gunmen and kidnappers on ending the kidnapping operations and returning the kidnapped people to their kinfolk before our forces take up their positions. I ask all gunmen to withdraw from the streets because we will treat every gunman as an enemy of this city. Instructions to that effect have been passed to the forces. Therefore, I would like to issue this ultimatum chiefly to those who recently carried out kidnappings. I ask them to release all the kidnapped people and hand them over to their kinfolk within an hour from now; namely at 1730. All gunmen are instructed to withdraw immediately from Beirut streets, because the regular forces are now at the approaches to the town and are on their way to deploy in all areas and on all streets. The regular forces have orders to deal with every gunman as an enemy and will under no circumstances treat him differently. They are instructed to consolidate security in Beirut and end all shows of force, wrest all offices and apartments from the hands of the gunmen, particularly those which were recently occupied, and end all abnormal practices. The regular forces will not be lenient with violators. As of tomorrow morning, they will be ready to receive grievances from the citizens and will hunt down all criminals and robbers. They will bring to account all those who mutilated the image of Beirut and its militant history.

We are known for always implementing our ultimatums. There shall be no extension of the ultimatum, regardless of circumstances. He who forewarns is excused.

[Correspondent] Sir, could you tell us the telephone numbers to use to submit complaints?

[Kan'an] 812801 and 812802. Any citizen can call us on either line, effective tomorrow morning.

[Correspondent] Thank you, sir.

Deploy Around Airport

NC221617 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] According to reports from West Beirut, the vanguards of the Syrian occupation forces have gone beyond the Cola factory point and Al-Tariq al-Jadidah and established a post in the municipal playground, while continuing to advance toward Al-Hamra'.

A Syrian force supported by 30 vehicles, including five T-54 tanks, deployed around Beirut Airport earlier. AFP reported that the Syrian deployment and entry into West Beirut is being supervised by Major General Sa'id Bayraqdar, commander of the Syrian forces, and Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian intelligence in Lebanon.

Some reports say that Amal gunmen are poised to occupy some of the positions the socialists have decided to vacate.

Socialist gunmen kidnapped an Amal Movement member near the Baydun Hospital in the Al-Sana'i' area around 1700 today, which incited tension there.

Deployment Complete

NC221721 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1640 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Our correspondent just reported that the Syrians forces have completed deployment in West Beirut and arrived in the areas of Al-Rawshah, Al-Ramlah al-Bayda', Al-Tariq al-Jadidah, the Arab University, and Qasqas a short while ago. A Syrian salvation vanguards force has just been deployed in Al-Sana'i' garden.

Meanwhile, an official source in the Syrian observers has told us that the withdrawal of gunmen from the streets has been completed and that all of the kidnapped and detained people have been released. The source added that all party offices will be closed down pursuant to the urgent appeal made by Brigadier General Kan'an today.

Kan'an Denies Entry Into Suburb

NC231130 Beirut Voice of National Resistance
in Arabic 1120 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an denied in a statement at noon today reports circulated by some news agencies that the Syrian security forces will enter [West Beirut's] southern suburb. He said: The Lebanese request for Syrian military assistance was basically for West Beirut, where fighting was raging. Therefore, the decision to enter West Beirut does not include the southern suburb.

Over 100 Kidnappings 23 Feb

NC231257 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Kidnappings have been taking place on a wide scale today in the Mar Ilyas, Al-Musaytibah, Al-Murr Tower, and Al-Watwat areas [in West Beirut]. Security sources have estimated the number of kidnap victims at over 100. Gunmen were stopping cars and kidnapping citizens according to their political affiliation. [passage omitted]

In view of this situation, Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon, has issued another ultimatum to the gunmen in West Beirut, warning them of the consquences of their continuing attacks on the citizens.

Syrians, Gunmen Clash in West Beirut 23 Feb

NC231429 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Security sources informed us a short time ago that the bursts of machinegun fire heard 10 minutes ago in the capital were due to a clash between a Syrian force patrol and some gunmen near the 'Abd al-Nasir statue in the area of 'Ayn al-Muraysah [in West Beirut].

Syrians Form 3 Military Sectors

NC231435 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Security sources have pointed out that West Beirut has been divided into three military sectors. The first sector extends from Al-Tariq al-Jadidah up to the southern side of Corniche al-Mazra'ah; the second sector includes Al-Rawshah, Nasir Restaurant, the military beach up to Quraytim, and Al-Musaytibah; and the third sector includes Al-Hamra' and the streets branching away from it.

In addition to this military division, patrols from the internal security forces, accompanied by Syrian forces, are operating in Al-Tariq al-Jadidah, Al-Hamra', and Al-Mazra'ah.

Kan'an Requests Citizens' Help

NC231431 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] The Syrian Arab forces have continued to deploy in Beirut. They began operations in Tal'at Shihadah, 'Ayyub Station, Hayy al-Lija, Karakul Al-Duruz, and Mar Ilyas, a while ago, having deployed in Al-Zaydaniyah, Al-Malla, and 'A'ishah Bakkar this morning.

Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, head of the security and intelligence department of the Syrian forces in Lebanon, told the NNA a short time ago that kidnapping incidents such as those that took place in some parts of West Beirut today will end in an hour's time. He said no party office or gunman will remain and that Syrian forces will continue their patrols in all areas of West Beirut during this period. He noted that the problems such as kidnappings and counterkidnappings that took place today were committed by persons harmed [by the security plan] and who were exploiting some of the gaps before they are closed in the next few hours.

Brig Gen Kan'an has also made the following statement:

To all the respected citizens: As we complete the deployment of our forces, we wish to tell you that these forces are among you to defend you and to protect your security, property, and dignity. Therefore, I ask you to give these forces all the information you have about the outlaws who have played havoc in the city, especially those who have committed crimes of murder and kidnapping and have robbed houses and private and public insitutions. I am warning the thieves that they had better return their loot. I am also warning you that anyone who deals with these thieves and buys any stolen property from them will be considered as an accomplice. I am addressing a particular warning to those who stole items belonging to the Arab University of Beirut, which represents cultural, educational, national, and pan-Arab values. I call on them to return what they stole because we will give this matter our special attention and will pursue the robbers wherever they may be. I am warning all these thieves, and I tell them that we will have no mercy on them if they do not do what I have just said. He who warns is excused.

Says Party Offices To Be Closed

NC232024 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, head of security and intelligence in the Syrian forces operating in Lebanon, has stated: The security measures will be completed this evening and our forces will occupy all offices or centers belonging to organizations or parties. He said the agreed-upon plan is designed to end the infighting in West Beirut. He noted that the contact lines will be assigned to the 6th Brigade and the legitimate forces in Beirut.

Brig Gen Kan'an said the Syrians will deploy up to Khaldah and that the [Lebanese Army's] 12th Brigade will deploy on the coastal road from Khaldah up to Al-Awwali.

He noted: We are present at Beirut airport and there will be no security problem there.

Brig Gen Kan'an warned those who caused the infighting and robberies. He said: We will make them account for what they have done, and they will be handed over to the authorities very soon. Brig Gen Kan'an said this in a special interview with the *National News Agency*.

7 PSP, Communist Members Killed

NC232028 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] According to a security source, a Syrian patrol shot and killed two unarmed PSP personnel in front of the Al-Rafidayn Bank on Al-Sadat Street at 1930 today. Meanwhile, another Syrian patrol shot and killed five party gunmen in the Al-Rawshah area. The gunmen reportedly belonged to the PSP and Communist Party.

Amal, PSP Offices Being Closed

NC232145 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] An Amal Movement source confirmed to the Voice of Lebanon tonight that the Syrian forces closed down the Amal and PSP offices in the Al-Musaytibah, Mar Ilyas, Al-Hamra', Karakul al-Druze, and Al-Zaydaniyah areas this afternoon. The source added that the party offices in the vicinity of the Soviet Embassy and Wata al-Musaytibah will be closed tomorrow. He said further the number of security personnel stationed around the homes of Ministers Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri will be reduced.

According to Amal information, the Syrians stormed the PSP offices in the 'Ayn al-Muraysah, Clemenceau Street, Cowboy and Cavalier Club areas, and arrested 40, 20, 20, and 10 members, respectively.

Gunfire Heard in Khaldah

NC240622 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] The sound of intensive gunfire was heard at dawn today in some areas of the capital, particularly in the areas close to the coast, from Al-Awza'i to Khaldah. This was caused by the fact that some party members fired shots in the air while withdrawing from Beirut to the mountain in implementation of the new security plan.

We wish to point out that there is no truth to the reports carried by the media in the eastern areas regarding air raids in Khaldah or anything of the sort. All that has happened is that some fighters who were withdrawing from the capital fired in the air on their way from Al-Awza'i to the mountain via Khaldah. This has been confirmed by PSP sources.

Take Control of PSP Barracks

NC241219 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] The Syrian Arab forces have continued to deploy on the streets and in various neighborhoods of Beirut since this morning. At noon today they took control of the Jall al-Bahr Barracks, which had been held by the PSP, and are scheduled to take over the Fathallah center of Hizballah in the Al-Bastah area this afternoon. The Syrian forces took over the Burj al-Murr Center from the Amal Movement yesterday.

Security sources reported a short while ago that the Syrian forces have established a permanent roadblock at the airport traffic circle, under a bridge in the Al-Ghubayrah area, and they are checking vehicles and preventing violations.

We also received the following report a short while ago: The Syrians today took up positions in Al-Janah, the Summerland, the Sports City, the Central Post Office, the Jigher Technical School, and Al-'Awza'i Hill, which is known as Ard al-Maqasid, Al-Maramil, and Tallat Cocodi.

Junblatt on 'Great' Rift With Nabih Birri

NC220954 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] PSP leader Walid Junblatt has expressed hope that the crisis will soon be over. He stressed the need for seriousness in dealing with all parties and warned against leniency toward any of those concerned with the situation, as this would return the situation to square one and damage Lebanese and Syrian credibility.

Junblatt said the PSP will offer every facility, because this crisis is the biggest obstacle to confronting Israel politically and militarily. In a press statement Junblatt said: I feel satisfied when serious security measures are taken. He also called for political measures, because minimal political agreement among the parties concerned is indispensable.

Junblatt has urged calling to account all parties involved in the recent events, saying: It is inadmissible that only George Hawi [Lebanese Communist Party leader] be held responsible. On his relationship with Nabih Birri, Junblatt said: The rift is very great, and I will not begin a dialogue alone with him. This dialogue must include us as parties and him. Junblatt expects political talks to begin within a week. He has asserted that the main concern is political, alluding to certain traps such as intruders in the PSP and the Amal Movement, the combat lines, the Army, the Deuxieme Bureau, Sham'un's henchmen, Ja'ja', Lahd, and booby-trapped cars.

On the political level, Junblatt noted there have been differences in political stands among the main players in the expanded meeting in Damascus 2 days ago, saying this was clear even during the meeting with President al-Asad. He said the only forward-looking politician is Prime Minister Karami. Junblatt cited President al-Asad as saying: We must first stop the war, because Beirut is ablaze; then we can consider the political issues. He [not further identified] said that Israeli influence [al-halah al-isra'iliyah] exists in Lebanon, either directly or symbolically and that nothing has changed in this regard. We were stronger even when the Tripartite Agreement was in effect, Junblatt said. Al-Jumayyil has given us nothing, and therefore we will not reach a solution.

Reports on Groups' Reaction to Syrian Deployment

Lebanese Front Rejects Presence

NC211957 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1915 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Front following an extraordinary meeting held at 1800 on 21 February at the Lebanese Forces Headquarters — read by Deputy Edward Hunayn, the front's secretary general]

[Text] The Lebanese Front held an extraordinary meeting on the evening of Saturday, 21 February to discuss the entry of Syrian forces into some Lebanese areas. It now issues the following statement:

1. The front is aware of the tragedy which West Beirut, the [southern] suburb, and the south are suffering from as a result of the war raging in these areas. It shares the pain of the inhabitants there and mourns the victims that have fallen and the damages they have suffered. It calls for doing all that must be done to put an end to this destructive situation.

2. The front reiterates its rejection of the Syrian Army presence in Lebanon. It was expecting that Army's withdrawal, but, instead, it is entering certain areas under flimsy pretexts. The presence of that Army on Lebanese territory for the last 11 years has always been the problem, and it has not succeeded in bringing any security to any area.

3. The front stresses that the officials who asked the Syrian forces to enter Lebanon do not represent the constitutional legitimate authority. Their action contravenes the Constitution and Lebanon's norms. The front also believes the entry of Syrian forces runs counter to international laws, particularly the UN Charter. This requires the speedy intervention of the UN Security Council and the big powers to prevent this blatant aggression on an independent country that is a UN member-state.

O Lebanese, the front is yours. May you live long. Long live Lebanon.

Ja'ja' Predicts 'Bigger Clashes'

NC212013 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1915 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Following the meeting of the Lebanese Front today, Dr Samir Ja'ja', commander of the Lebanese Forces, spoke to news correspondents. He said the entry of the Syrian Army into West Beirut would not end the fighting. He noted that this entry might give direct results in the short term, but it will ultimately lead to bigger clashes and problems. He recalled what had happened more than 6 months before.

Ja'ja' added that the Syrian Army's entry into West Beirut will involve Beirut in regional Arab and international conflicts. He asked: What would happen if another group of ministers asked another country's army to enter another area? What would happen if the president of the Republic asked, for example, the American Army or any European army to enter? Ja'ja' added that those who are acting in this manner are actually implementing partition, which will lead to grave consequences at all levels. He said: They have established a precedent and let them bear the responsibility for that. Let no one blame another if he acts the same way in the future.

Dr Ja'ja' stressed that there is no going back on opening Halat airport, regardless of the price. He pointed out that the opening of this airport is not far off.

Comments Further

NC212131 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2015 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Following the meeting of the Lebanese Front, Dr Samir Ja'ja', commander of the Lebanese forces, spoke to journalists. He said the Syrian Army's entry into West Beirut can never end the fighting. [passage omitted]

Dr Ja'ja' does not see any reason for believing or supposing that there is an American or Western cover for Syrian entry into West Beirut to resolve the issue of the hostages. He noted that although there is talk about that on the domestic level, available information gives no evidence of it. Dr Ja'ja' asked: Isn't Syria present in the Al-Biqa' valley? Most of the hostages are undoubtedly there, he said. Ja'ja' stressed that the best evidence of the fact that the Syrian entry into West Beirut is not a cover for something is Syria's hesitation, in the past 3 or 4 days, over whether to enter or not. If there were any international or regional cover for that entry, Syria would not have had to rally its allies to try to get from them a kind of fragile legitimacy, which cannot be legitimate. In my view, Ja'ja' added, if they [the Syrians] want to enter, their entry should only be limited.

Ja'ja' asserted that his stand on a Syrian entry into West Beirut will remain fixed, just as his view of a Syrian presence has never changed. He stressed that nothing will be spared, in West Beirut or in other areas, to find ways to drive the Syrian Army out of Lebanon.

Ja'ja' believes that certain expected reactions will be triggered if the size of the Syrian Army exceeds a certain limit. He also ruled out the possibility of holding a cabinet session as a result of the Syrian entry, since Khaddam [Syrian vice president] was the one who called for the boycott. [passage omitted]

Phalangists: Entry 'Illegitimate'

NC231315 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Statement issued by the Phalangist Party's Political Bureau after its meeting on 23 February — place not given]

[Text] After reviewing the security and political developments in West Beirut, and in light of the statements issued by the president's office and the Lebanese Front, the Phalangist Party's Political Bureau declares the following:

1. It supports the statements issued by the president's office and the Lebanese Front regarding the entry of the Syrian Army into West Beirut;

2. It affirms that the Syrian Army's entry into West Beirut at the request of certain officials is illegitimate and violates the Constitution and applicable norms. It also violates Lebanese sovereignty and contravenes the Arab League and UN Charters. Furthermore, it does not represent an extension of the mission allocated to Syria in 1976.

3. The Political Bureau is following current developments with great interest. It is keeping in touch with the various Lebanese officials. It calls for unity of ranks and for political moves and decisions to reach an accord among the Lebanese. Only this can serve as a guarantee for a comprehensive Lebanese solution.

PNSF Welcomes Syrians

NC222018 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] The PNSF has issued a statement in which it welcomes the Syrian initiative and affirms that the return of the Syrian forces to Beirut represents a practical guarantee to the unity in the national ranks and the Palestinian camps. The PNSF said this step represents a prelude toward organizing Lebanese-Palestinian relations.

Junblatt Willing To Disarm PSP

NC222029 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2015 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] In a statement he made in Damascus tonight, Minister Walid Junblatt expressed his readiness to hand over the PSP weapons in Beirut, and even in all of Lebanon, to the Syrian forces rather than terminate his alliance with Syria.

Endorses Syrian Entry

JN230659 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0515 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] In Damascus, PSP leader Walid Junblatt held a news conference yesterday that was attended by a number of Arab and foreign news agencies and television network correspondents. At the beginning of his news conference, Walid Junblatt said: I would like to explain certain issues related to the recent events that took place in [West] Beirut. These events were not planned and were not a premeditated foreign conspiracy. The fighting broke out as a result of imbalance in relations between the national forces and Amal as well as between the PSP and the Communist Party on the one hand and Amal on the other because in general the political view was not clear.

Junblatt added: What happened was a national and pan-Arab catastrophe as well as a human catastrophe for the people of Beirut. Junblatt affirmed that the Syrian Army's presence in Beirut will achieve security for everyone without exception. He hoped the Syrian initiative would result in the continued confrontation of Israel and 'Arafatist deviation.

On 'Alliance' With Damascus

NC232004 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] PSP leader Walid Junblatt chaired a meeting of the party's Political Bureau and Central Committee members this afternoon. The meeting was attended by officers and cadre of the Popular Liberation Army-the Martyr Kamal Junblatt Forces, commanders of military sectors and axes, officials of the party organizations in all areas, and a number of the 11th Brigade officers. Walid Junblatt briefed the conferees on the latest developments in West Beirut, the Damascus agreement, and the on-site measures that have been taken so far. He repeated his appeal to all party members to abide by what has been agreed upon and to facilitate the relevant measures and the Syrian forces' mission.

Junblatt reaffirmed that the developments in Beirut were not a conspiracy, but were the result of the large political gap that existed between the Amal Movement and all the nationalist parties. He said: The battle began around the defense of a Lebanese Communist Party [LCP] center, its only center in the capital. We were compelled to defend it, and we will endeavor to defend every honest patriot. We deplore and regret the killing of strugglers such as Husayn Muruwwah, Michel Wakid, and Khalil Na'us, whom we consider the martyrs of the PSP. What has happened is regrettable, painful, and catastrophic. The loss is great to everyone. However, what happened is now past. We had wished that this would never take place and that we would not end up in this situation, but what is required now is the solution. We insist on an alliance with Damascus. We want to rectify the relations between the nationalist parties and the Amal Movement and strengthen the alliance between these and the nationalist Palestinians to block the way before all those who want to exploit what has happened. The battle is not over yet; it has just begun. Therefore, we hope to be able to normalize relations among the PSP, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, the LCP, and the Amal Movement, and to enhance this move by an alliance with Syria.

Junblatt spoke of his stance regarding the Palestinian issue. He stressed he is opposed to disarming the Palestinians under the Phalangist regime, and as long as Israel, Samir Ja'ja', Lahd, and the United States are in existence. He said: We are against disarming the Palestinian people. Our stand on this issue is firm and clear. At the same time, however, we are opposed to the Palestinians' domination over the Lebanese national decision-making, and over the south as was the case before 1982. We can reach a compromise between these two situations, particularly if we are able to establish a genuine nationalist alliance with the Amal Movement, Syrians, and Palestinians. Therefore, we cannot disarm the Palestinians as long as Samir Ja'ja', Al-Jumayyil, Israel, and Lahd exist. Once a nationalist, just, and secure regime exists in Lebanon, we can reach an understanding which will define and reorganize the Palestinian presence. We can also take measures to guarantee security, peace, and stability for the Palestinians, as is the case in Syria and other Arab countries.

Walid Junblatt affirmed that the PSP will assist Syria in Beirut and elsewhere, and that he will not allow anyone to impair this move. Junblatt gave explicit orders in this regard and asked the conferees to follow and implement them.

Fadlallah Cited on 'Absurdity'

NC231355 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] In an interview published today, scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah said: It is the Islamic Republic's belief that the Palestinians should be freed of the leaders who deceive them. However, the way to accomplish this is not by driving the Palestinians into a corner, which would only make them cling more tenaciously to their leaders. Our task is to persuade them not to follow those who exploit them but those who want them to return to their homeland.

Fadlallah, who also warned against emotional and factional reactions, said: Let us be strong, fair, and sober.

He added: As for those who consider themselves involved in the new security plan, I have no idea what kind of plan they can implement. Those who have assaulted the people cannot be entrusted with protecting them. Those who have engaged in the killing and the devastation are not qualified to supervise the cease-fire. What sort of game, what absurdity, is this?

Hawi Expresses 'Satisfaction'

JN230649 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Excerpts] The Syrian forces have returned to Beirut and began their deployment yesterday in the streets of the western part of the city which were the scene of the fiercest street battles in the Lebanese capital. [passage omitted]

Following a meeting with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus yesterday, George Hawi, Lebanese Communist Party secretary general said he hopes the Syrian initiative will be successful, and expressed satisfaction that Beirut will be purged of the gangs and groups that destroyed Lebanon. [passage omitted]

Karami, Kan'an, Al-Rasi Review Security Plan

NC221953 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Interior Minister 'Abdallah al-Rasi, Syrian Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, and some Lebanese Army officers held a meeting tonight to review developments in West Beirut, as well as any future steps that might need to be taken.

After the meeting, Karami said: We discussed the current issues and agreed on several measures regarding the plan that has been adopted, in order to quickly implement all the decisions made now that the Syrian forces have entered and the situation on the ground is completely under control. We will resume our contacts with the Lebanese security leaders tomorrow to implement all that has been agreed upon and will give the necessary instructions to the commands that will be appointed to carry out these duties. We are confident that the results will fulfill the wishes of all honest citizens in Beirut.

Al-Rasi, Kan'an on Security

NC230745 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Remarks by Interior Minister 'Abdallah al-Rasi and Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon, in response to questions by unidentified NNA correspondents after a meeting in Prime Minister Rashid Karami's residence in Beirut on 22 February — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Mr Minister, regarding the security meeting which has just ended in the prime minister's residence, what is your impression of the measures to be implemented on the ground?

[Al-Rasi] My impression is one of reassurance, and I would like to convey this reassurance to the Lebanese citizen in West Beirut. As of tonight, he can sleep peacefully, God willing. All the necessary security measures that will bring permanent relief to the Lebanese citizen will be implemented tomorrow morning. As a result, the citizen will no longer have to suffer attack, robbery, kidnapping, or any such security violations.

[Correspondent] Will the gunmen on the Beirut streets be withdrawn or will they be...

[Al-Rasi, interrupting] As of tomorrow, no weapons or gunmen will be found in West Beirut. The only weapons to be seen will be those in the hands of the legitimate forces.

[Correspondent] What will happen to those who are arrested?

[Al-Rasi] I do not want to say what will happen to them. I will just say: God help them. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] The citizens are waiting for calm and stability. What will be the outcome of this security meeting at Prime Minister Karami's residence?

[Kan'an] We agreed on a plan for Beirut, a plan for deployment and action that will bring the situation under control, end the state of anarchy, and terminate the tragedy that has struck Beirut and its people.

[Correspondent] Is it possible to tell the Lebanese citizens, particularly those in the capital, that tomorrow, Monday, will be a normal day?

[Kan'an] Yes, of course. There will be no gunmen on the streets as of tomorrow morning. Any gunman found on the streets will be regarded as a criminal and an outlaw.

[Correspondent] Brigadier General, what are you going to do about the kidnappings and security violations?

[Kan'an] As far as the kidnappings are concerned, we hope these are not instigated by their [the kidnappers'] leaders. The leaders have been informed and an appeal has been addressed to all kidnappers to release the persons they are holding. Each case will be dealt with separately, but in every one of them the kidnappers will be treated as criminals and will be brought to justice as necessary.

[Correspondent] Regarding the closure of the offices of party gunmen, when will this take place?

[Kan'an] The offices have been closed, and we will make sure they are closed tomorrow morning. If gunmen are found in any office, they will be detained and brought to justice.

[Correspondent] We have learned that security in West Beirut will be maintained by the Army and the internal security forces, assisted by...

[Kan'an, interrupting] Assisted by us. We will assist them to carry out their duty, because this is their country and their responsibility.

[Correspondent] What about the contact lines?

[Kan'an] There will be no gunmen anywhere in Beirut, and this includes the contact lines. The legitimate army will do its duty. [passage omitted]

'General Committee' Formed To Monitor Security

NC230951 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0925 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] A meeting at the home of Prime Minister Rashid Karami ended a short while ago. It was attended by [Defense Minister] 'Adil 'Usayran, Interior Minister 'Abdallah al-Rasi, and a number of high-ranking Army and internal security forces officers. During the meeting it was decided to establish an operations room to monitor the security situation, the security measures taken in Beirut, and Army deployment on the contact lines from the sea to the mountain, through the southern suburb.

The conferees have decided to meet at 1700 every Tuesday and to call themselves the General Committee.

Karami Comments on Committee

NC231056 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0926 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Statement by Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, followed by remarks in response to questions by unidentified correspondents after a meeting held at his home in Beirut on 23 February — recorded]

[Text] The conferees discussed the necessary arrangements for the implementation of the security plan, to which everyone attaches his hope for salvation from the ordeal that has afflicted West Beirut. After deliberation, it has been decided to form a general committee composed of Major General 'Uthman 'Uthman [director general of the internal security forces]; Maj Gen Mahmud Tayy Abu Dargham [chief of staff of the Lebanese Army]; Brigadier General Nabil Huraytim [secretary general of the Higher Defense Council]; Brig Gen 'Umar Makhzumi [commander of Beirut police]; Brig Gen 'Abd al-Halim Kanj [commander of the 6th Brigade]; Colonel Lutfi Jabir [director of the Army's Administration Department]; Col 'Isam Abu Zaki [commander of the judicial police]; and Col 'Ali 'Ashur.

In addition, it was agreed to set up an operations room, headed by Brig Gen 'Umar Makhzumi, commander of the Beirut police. He will be assisted by Col Mahdi al-Haj Hasan, assistant to the commander of the gendarmerie force, Col 'Isam Abu Zaki, Brig Gen 'Abd al-Halim Kanj, and a representative of the Syrian forces.

The internal security forces, assisted by the Lebanese Army and the Syrian forces, will send out patrols and carry out their responsibility. Therefore, they are authorized to receive complaints through the police posts and to follow up all cases in the courts. Consequently, we ask all citizens to submit their requests and complaints to the internal security forces so that they may look into them and take the appropriate legal action. This is so that justice may be upheld and punishment meted out to the criminals.

[Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, can you give us some details of the new security plan, and tell us what political developments you foresee in the coming stage?

[Karami] There is no doubt that the nine-point security plan announced in Damascus calls for the deployment of the Army along the contact lines. The presence of gunmen, except for the Army, is no longer permissible from the sea to the mountain, and that includes the southern suburb. The plan also provides for all those matters arising from these conflicts, such as robberies, the occupation of houses, kidnappings, and so forth, to be dealt with. An end must be put to these actions and their results as soon as possible. The legitimate forces, with the support of the Syrian Army, must work to free this society from all these abominable crimes. On the political level, we are awaiting the results of meetings in Damascus before defining the course which will lead to an inter-Lebanese accord on the desired reforms. Such a solution will constitute a guarantee for the present and the future.

[Correspondent] Have you appointed a commander for these security forces, Mr Prime Minister?

[Karami] I have said clearly that the commander of the Beirut police is in charge of the operations room. The General Committee will follow up the implementation of the plan and will supervise what is happening, with a view to taking whatever measures are necessary in the public interest.

[Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, are there any plans to reopen the airport?

[Karami] We have been wondering from the beginning what happened to cause the closure of Beirut airport. We wish to see it reopened as soon as possible. Now that security has been established for good, God willing, there is no longer any excuse to keep the airport closed.

[Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, has the Security Coordination Committee, which included representatives of the parties and militias, been abolished?

[Karami] There is no doubt that the Damascus agreement supersedes everything that went before. Therefore, the General Committee announced today will officially take over responsibility. All its members hold posts which naturally qualify them for this committee.

[Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, houses in certain areas of Beirut have been raided and robbed. Many complaints, for example, have reached you today from Al-Tariq al-Jadidah. Will measures be taken during the transitional period to put an end to what is happening?

[Karami] There are no transitional periods any more. Serious action has begun to establish security; offenses will be eliminated and their effects dealt with.

Syrian Force Linked to Hostage Release Attempts

NC232040 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2018 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] REUTER has cited political sources in Beirut as saying that the deployment of Syrian forces in West Beirut may lead to fresh attempts to secure the release of foreign hostages held in Lebanon. These sources say the Syrians will soon capture the base of the fundamentalists in West Beirut, believed to have been used for detaining foreign hostages in the past. They voiced their belief that most of the hostages are being held in Beirut, and that they will not be easily transported to other locations after the Syrians have deployed there.

Birri on Waite, Professors, Israeli Navigator

NC210715 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] In an interview with Italian television, Minister Nabih Birri has said he believes Anglican Church Envoy Terry Waite will be freed, but not in the near future. Birri said it could take 3 months.

Regarding the four professors who were recently kidnapped from the Beirut University College, Birri said efforts are being made to free them. Asked about the fate of the Israeli navigator detained by Amal, Birri said he is trying to secure his release through an exchange process.

Abu Iyad: Hostages To Stay for 'Several Years'

NC211745 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], the second in command of the Fatah Movement, has expressed his belief that the foreign hostages in Lebanon will remain in captivity for several years. He added that the Islamic Jihad Organization is holding foreign hostages in order to protect itself against any attack, but that it will gain enough power after 1989 to release the hostages.

U.S. Islamic Leaders 'Assured' on Hostages

NC221312 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Dale Shaheen, chairman of the Islamic Affairs Council in New York, and Mohammed Mehdi, secretary general of the Council, have stated that a source in West Beirut assured them that the foreign hostages are in good health and that the fighting will not affect them. [passage omitted]

The two American Muslims visited Beirut to hold contacts regarding the hostages. However, they left after being robbed during the recent incidents.

Damascus Criticizes U.S. Reaction to Beirut Plan

JN231447 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Syria's decision to provide military assistance to restore security in West Beirut has been welcomed by all those who are concerned over Beirut and Lebanon and those who seek a national solution to the Lebanese crisis. This is something natural. It is also natural that the parties which ignited the civil war, poured fuel on the fire every time it abated, exploited the Lebanese state of affairs to attain objectives that conflict with Lebanon's national interests and with pan-Arab interests, and which tried to make of Lebanon a bleeding wound that drains Arab blood, precoccupies Arabs, fabricates an inter-Arab conflict that will obscure the fateful Arab struggle against Israel, and diverts attention from the Zionist onslaught to impose Camp David's hegemony on the entire region, will receive this Syrian decision with dissatisfaction, plan intrigues and incitments, and raise legal and other problems and ambiguities.

Chief among these parties are the United States and Israel. It seems those who have immersed Lebanon in blood and fire do not want that Arab country to emerge from its tribulation or to extricate itself from this foreign war that was erroneously called a civil war. They also do not want stability to return to Beirut and for the gangs of death, terrorism, and confusion to disappear from the streets.

Those who read the U.S. statement on Syria's response to the Lebanese request for military assistance feel the U.S. rulers are concerned about everything except the safety of the Lebanese, their lives, homeland, and future and that these rulers view Lebanon as being only a pawn in the chess game they are playing over the region and a card to be used against the United States, Israel, and all those who oppose the Camp David accords.

The U.S. rulers, who gave Israel the green light to invade Lebanon in 1982, to commit in it the well-known crimes and terrorist acts, and to establish an occupation which still exists, have no right to speak about legitimacy in Lebanon and about the Lebanese right to run their affairs by themselves because they have contributed through policies and support for Israel to undermining legitimacy, curtailing Lebanon's sovereignty on its territory, and turning Lebanon into a battlefield where destruction is rife.

If the U.S. rulers are sincere in their statements about the departure of foreign forces from Lebanon, what prevents them from publicly urging Israel to end its occupation of Lebanon and what prevents them from asking their strategic ally in the region to desist from its destructive interference in Lebanon's domestic affairs? The U.S. rulers hope Lebanon will be set on fire, that Israel will prosper, that all Lebanese will die, and that schemes for U.S. hegemony in the region will flourish.

As for the Israeli rulers' stand, it needs no comment because these rulers' responsibility for the invasion, its conseuqnces, and for the occupation of southern Lebanon is known.

When Syria decided to respond to the call of the Lebanese brothers and to intervene to help restore stability and security to West Beirut, it did so out of its pan-Arab and humanitarian responsibility and in accordance with its national will. When Syria decides something it does not need anyone's approval. It does not need the approval of the enemies of Lebanon and the Arabs, particularly of the Washington and Tel Aviv rulers.

Media Comments on Army Deployment in West Beirut

Press Affirms Readiness

JN221055 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 Feb 87

[From the press review]

[Text] In a comment today, the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* affirms that the stand announced by leader Al-Asad on faternal Lebanon the day before yesterday is not new. It is in fact a continuation of a principled stand which had been adopted since the beginning of painful and regrettable incidents in the spring of 1975. There is no doubt that what happened in West Beirut over the past few days was painful not only for the Beirut inhabitants but for all nationalist Arabs. This is because what happened serves only the enemies of Lebanon's unity and Arabism, and does not serve the Arab nation and its pan-Arab causes.

Al-Ba'th continues: The nationalist Arabs consider the unity of national resistance in Lebanon against the usurping Zionist enemy the real nucleus for the unity of Arab struggle which has long been cherished by the masses of our Arab nation, especially following the treasonous Camp David accords that removed Arab Egypt from the line of confrontation with our national enemy. From this premise, like other nationalist Arabs, we say what happened in West Beirut recently was painful for all of us. Arab Syria, which has placed all its potentials for the unity of national resistance, was not only pained by what happened, but was deeply shocked, prompting it to hasten to use all its abilities to stop bloodshed and restore cohesion. Leader al-Asad's response to the representatives of national forces who visited Damascus by sending units from our Armed Forces to bring things under control, is conclusive evidence that Syria cannot abandon Lebanon. Syria is determined to continue cooperation with everyone to save the fraternal country from its ordeal and pains. Syria believes that to achieve this, the accurate implementation of the nine points agreed upon by all the concerned parties in Damascus the day before yesterday is vital.

Concluding its comment, Al-Ba'th affirms that the security of the homeland and citizen is the responsibility of everyone. Certainly, it has become urgent that all concerned parties work seriously away from disputes and limited interests to achieve security and stability for all Lebanon. As leader Al-Asad said, Syria will always be ready to extend every assistance that entrenches the unity of Lebanon — both land and people. This unity is more important and greater than all.

Under the headline "The Syrian Response to the Call of Pan-Arab Duty," the newspaper *Al-Thawrah* comments: As Lebanon always knew it would, Syria has hastened to extend a helping hand to the Lebanese brothers in the troubles that have befallen wounded Lebanon and has responded to the call of pan-Arab duty amid extremist waves of sedition and fighting incited by suspect elements to serve the enemies of Lebanon and the Arab nation.

Al-Thawrah says: Syria was the first to dispatch its forces within the framework of the deterrent Arab forces at the request of Lebanese legitimacy to stop bloodshed caused by the plots of those involved in the Zionist and imperialist schemes. Syria has, more than once, facilitated a Lebanese political dialogue to pave the way for a national accord to obstruct the way of the plot and plotters against the present and future of Lebanon — both land and people.

The newspaper affirms Syria's pan-Arab stands on Lebanon were merely an expression of the will of Lebanon's masses who were burned by the fire of fratricide and sedition and a confirmation of Syria's pan-Arab stands toward a fraternal country threatened with many dangers posed by a handful of plotters and executors of the Israeli schemes aimed at exploding the Lebanese situation, causing bloodshed in Lebanon, and weakening its strength and economy to help swallow and liquidate it in accordance with the U.S.-Israeli schemes of subservience, whose dangers appeared in the stillborn 17 May agreement.

Al-Thawrah concludes: Arab Syria can only be alongside unified Lebanon and can only work for the welfare and benefit of Lebanon and its citizens and the achievement of security and tranquility for all the Lebanese citizens in a manner that stops the killing and returns life in Lebanon to its calm and secure state. The Lebanese citizens' roaring welcome of Syria's response to save Lebanon and the Lebanese from the danger threatening their lives and properties are the best expression of the entire Arab masses' wagering on Syria's stand as a rescuer of Lebanon and protector of its unity — both land and people. These masses now realize that any other wager on any other party is only a loosing wager which wastes time, lives, and properties.

Response Termed 'Decisive'

JN211446 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, Syria has decided to respond to the call by Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Lebanese Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and the three Lebanese Ministers Salim al-Huss, Nabih Birri, and Walid Junblatt for Syrian military assistance to restore security to West Beirut and to support the implementation of the resolutions on establishing a normal situation in West Beirut and the roads leading to it. Lebanese officials have thanked President Hafiz al-Asad for responding to their call and for the brotherly sentiments he showed toward Lebanon and the Lebanese.

This is not the first time that Syria has come forward to help fraternal Lebanon end the bloodshed, contain the threats to the unity of the Lebanese people and the cohesion among the nationalist sides, and end an aberrant situation that does not serve Lebanese nationalist aims or any humanitarian interests, a situation that harms the interests of Lebanon and the Lebanese and the interests of the Lebanese parties that were drawn into the imbroglio. Syria has responded to official and popular Lebanese calls and stopped the Lebanese civil war and prevented its escalation, safeguarded the symbols of unity among the government and the people and in the land, and made sacrifices so that the Lebanese will live in peace. Syria will always remain — as President Hafiz al-Asad has declared — ready to render all possible assistance to fraternal Lebanon to put an end to the aberrant situation that arose as a result of the internal conflict directed from abroad, a conflict that has gone on for too long.

Syria, Lebanon's twin sister, moved by its national, pan-Arab, and humanitarian responsibilities, once again extends the hand of assistance to the Lebanese brothers, accepting the responsibilities and the sacrifices after those who were supposed to tackle the situation, adopt stands, and halt the wave of fighting and suicide failed to put an end to the fighting in West Beirut. The motives for and aims of such fighting are suspect, its significance is grave, and it has a far-reaching effect on driving wedges in the supposed natural alliance among the Lebanese nationalist forces that aspire to liberate Lebanon from Israeli occupation and aspire to a Lebanon whose land and people are united, an Arab Lebanon linked to Syria through ties of brotherhood, joint interests, and a common destiny.

The incidents in West Beirut are abhorrent and unjustifiable, and have been kindled by suspect forces who do not care if Lebanon burns as long as they can retain the hope of reaching the negotiating table with the United States and Israel. It is regrettable that the dirty hands and the manipulated stooges were not properly handled by those who were supposed to contain the situation and act from a premise of broad-mindedness and patriotism. Therefore, they had the opportunity to emroil those who are not supposed to become embroiled and to incite one brother against the other, one ally against the other, and one comrade against the other. What happened is abhorrent and unjustifiable, and must not be repeated. Restrictions must be imposed and precautions taken so that it is not repeated.

When it extends military assistance to the Lebanese brother to end the fratricide, stave off the sedition, and restore security to West Beirut, Syria is acting from its principled stands on Lebanon. Syria has no ambitions in Lebanon and does not seek to replace the Lebanese in administering their affairs and in carrying out the tasks of their institutions. Syria is not on the side of one group against the other, or on the side of one party against the other. Syria is on the side of Lebanon, on the side of the fraternal people in Lebanon, and on the side of Lebanon's security, safety, territorial integrity, the unity of its people and their right to liberate their land from Zionist occupation.

Just as Syria is anxious to help fraternal Lebanon, it is equally anxious to foil the agents, hirelings, the traders in death, religion, sectarianism, communalism, and factionalism who receive their inspiration and help from abroad, and who dream of restoring an aberrant situation that was at the heart of the Lebanese internal crisis. What Syria said yesterday following the meeting between President Hafiz al-Asad and Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Lebanese officials was clear and decisive, defined the objective of Syrian assistance, and should be understood by all. Syria means what it says, and has the ability to implement what it says under any circumstances.

TISHRIN Views Objectives

JN230955 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 Feb 87

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syria is for All Lebanese," *Tishrin* says: Once again Syria responded to the brother Lebanese call and to their genuine will. Syria dispatched forces to Beirut to achieve security and to end the bloody fighting, the destruction, and pains that threatened the national ranks and the achievements gained during the confrontation of the Zionist invaders and the NATO fleets. Syria embarked on this pan-Arab and humanitarian step after the dangers became very serious, threatening the Lebanese existence, way of life, and property. The Lebanese brothers' sufferings had reached an inconceivable limit. It became impossible to merely stand by and watch what was taking place and what might take place. It was necessary to adopt a firm, brave stand to respond to the call of the Lebanese masses who were deprived of everything. Hence came leader Al-Asad's response to the appeal and request of the Lebanese officials who came to our country. In fact, it was a response to the will of all Lebanese who lack security, tranquility, and a dignified life.

Tishrin continues: This was represented by the great popular welcome which the Syrian forces received as they entered Beirut to nurse the war wounds, to stop the fighting, to stop those tampering with the security of the homeland and people, and to achieve security and reassurance to allow the Lebanese rebuild what was destroyed.

Tishrin says: The Syrian forces' entry into Beirut does not at all mean abandoning the main issue; that is, the issue of accord and reconciliation among the Lebanese. Syria expressed many times through leader Al-Asad its readiness to provide any help and to make sacrifices so as to give momentum to the march of accord and to achieve reconciliation on just bases accepted by all Lebanese. The Syrian forces' entry into Beirut supports this political, principled trend. When the law of the jungle prevails the issue of accord will retreat and the Lebanese people will be exposed to bullets when they leave their shelters. Accord and reviving dialogue to achieve reconciliation require security. Beirut was in need of this throughout the past weeks, in fact, throughout the past months. Within this framework, the Syrian forces will exert their utmost to achieve security and reassurance and to end the abnormal situation that frightened everyone and created anxiety in the world.

Al-Asad Receives Libya's Major Jallud 23 Feb

JN231922 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution Command Council of Libya this evening. They discussed regional developments and bilateral relations.

Iran's Velayati, Delegation Arrive in Damascus

JN232135 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Mohsen Rafiqudust, minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, arrived in Damascus this evening on a visit to Syria. They were received at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, the Iranian ambassador in Damascus, and embassy staff.

150 Jordanian Detainees Reportedly Released

JN211323 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 19 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] Amman — *Al-Bayan* has learned that the Syrian security authorities recently released 150 Jordanians from Syrian prisons. Most of those released have returned to Amman.

Reports on Syrian Deployment in Beirut; Reaction

Syrians Advance Toward Khaldah

TA220714 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Exchanges of fire are taking place between the various militia in West Beirut. Meanwhile the Syrian force camped near Beirut started to move toward Khaldah, in the southern entrance to Beirut, this morning. The first soldiers in the convoy have already reached Khaldah. The force includes an armored corps brigade which includes 100 T-52 tanks, as well as an artillery battalion; altogether 3,500 soldiers. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports this is the same brigade forced by the IDF to retreat from Beirut in 1982.

Security 'Probably' Not Affected

TA221117 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi said a short while ago that the Syrians' entry into Beirut will probably not affect the state of security in Israel and the IDF's deployment on the northern border. At the same time, the chief of staff noted that this move may have implications for terrorist acts in Israel and for the balance of power between Israel and Syria. We will have to follow developments and take the necessary measures accordingly, the chief of staff said a short while ago.

Cabinet Discusses Issue

TA221128 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] The Syrian move to Beirut was high on the agenda at today's cabinet meeting. Steve Weizman reports from the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem:

[Begin Weizman recording] The two main points of interest at today's cabinet meeting seemed to be the Syrian intervention in Beirut and the continuing problems of Israel's health services. On the latter issue, Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almozlino is saying that as Treasury restrictions leave her unable to solve the dispute herself, a committee of some sort, possibly at ministerial level, should make an in depth study of the current situation and try and propose solutions.

On the subject of the Syrian forces now in the Beirut area, no details of the cabinet discussion on the situation are available at this time. However, Defense Minister Rabin reportedly feels there is no cause for immediate concern as long as the Syrians remain in the Beirut area and do not set up any ground-to-air missile batteries. The Foreign Ministry says Israel is watching the situation closely. [end recording]

A major step was taken by the cabinet today concerning Soviet Jews. The cabinet approved a resolution calling on the United States to drop the refugee status it grants Jews leaving the Soviet Union. The resolution was adopted unanimously at the suggestion of Vice Premier Shim'on Peres. It says that since the establishment of the State of Israel there are no longer Jewish refugees. After today's cabinet meeting, the Minister of Absorption Ya'aqov Tzur said the purpose is not to force Soviet Jews to remain in Israel but for them to come to this country and then decide on their future. Tzur also said that the government should now call on the Soviet Union to allow direct flights to Israel.

Rabin Assessment

TA221219 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1159 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says Israel is alertly following the entry of Syrian Army troops into West Beirut, and will reconsider the situation if a change occurs to justify this. Our correspondent Meron Tzur provides excerpts of Minister Rabin's remarks:

[Begin recording] [Rabin] To the best of my knowledge what we are dealing with so far is not a significant reinforcement. To the best of my assessment, the Syrian consideration stems from the fact that Amal, which is fighting against the various groups of PLO Palestinians — I am referring to the camps battle — also found itself in a war against the Lebanese Communist Party and perhaps also the Druze.

[Tzur] As a result of this and since it has no choice, the defense minister says, Syria has been dragged into the fighting in Beirut.

[Rabin] As far as Israel is concerned, it is preferrable the Syrians not return to Beirut, even with a small force. We will see what develops and consider our moves in light of this. [end recording]

Levi: No Power Balance Change

TA221619 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, who toured Bet Shemesh today, believes the Syrian entrance into Beirut will not change the balance of power between Syria and Israel.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Our deployment in Lebanon is not a deployment we need to change every day. This was stated today by Lt Gen Moshe Levi who does not foresee the entry of the Syrians into Beirut will have significant influence on Israel's security.

[Levi] On our line at the Lebanese border we witness anti-Israeli terrorist activity, and what happens in Lebanon can affect this activity. Will the influence of this Syrian force, and even possible confrontation with the IDF, change the balance of power or the point of departure between Israel and Syria? In my opinion, the answer is no.

[Correspondent] Asked why the Syrians have not entered Beirut until now, the chief of staff answered they apparently realized even the use of military force cannot guarantee success given the complexity, extremism, and radicalism of the internal situation in Lebanon. The Syrians' move will surely have numerous implications for the future, Lt Gen Levi said, and just as with every new situation created in Lebanon he believes matters should be allowed to develop and necessary stands adopted if and when called for. [end recording]

Debated by Security Committee

TA221558 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon believes Israel should warn the Syrians against moving their forces south of Beirut. Defense Minister Rabin today reported on the latest developments in Lebanon to the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel has the details:

[Begin recording] The debates sounded familiar and repetitive. Just as it happened 3, 5, and 10 years ago, Jerusalem today examined anew the significance of the reinforced Syrian involvement in Lebanon. Now, as then, opinions were divided between those who believe this phenomenon threatens Israel and those who believe such a Syrian move is particularly dangerous for the Syrians themselves.

Minister Ari'el Sharon, for instance, says Israel must react to the entry of the Syrian Army into Beirut. Sharon is particularly concerned about the possibility the Syrian Army will move southward and deploy itself along the coastal road south of the Sidon area. Jerusalem, in his opinion, must warn the Syrians against deploying south of Beirut. Such a Syrian move will constitute a significant change in the balance of power in Lebanon and contains dangers for the future. Sharon believes the Syrians will cover up for the terrorist organizations, will protect them, and encourage increased terrorist activity against Israel's northern border. Hence, Sharon demanded an urgent Inner Cabinet discussion on this issue.

In contrast, Minister 'Ezer Weizman believes one should not rush to make warnings. According to Weizman, the initial impression is the increased involvement in Beirut will provide work for the Syrians, increase their entanglement in Lebanon, and will not threaten Israel.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today said it is too early to know all of the implications of the Syrian entry of Beirut. We should wait and see what is happening. It will take a week or two before the situation clears up. As he was after the Lebanese war, Rabin is opposed in principle to a policy of red lines. He says red lines must not be set and warnings must not be issued if there is no intention to act upon them.

Thus, the assessments of three past and present defense ministers. The cabinet itself heard a report from Defense Minister Rabin on the situation in Lebanon in the framework of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs. It is very possible the issue will be raised for a detailed discussion in one of the upcoming meetings of the political Inner Cabinet. [end recording]

Peres: 'Illegitimate Intervention'

TA221932 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1929 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told foreign correspondents this evening that the Syrian Army's entry into Beirut is a gross and illegitimate intervention which will not add to Lebanon's stability and independence.

Says Adds 'Tensions' to Region

TA230522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says the Syrian deployment in Beirut has added tensions to the region but stresses that Israel has no interest in Lebanese politics or Lebanese territory. Speaking to reporters after addressing American Jewish fund-raisers in Jerusalem last night, Peres said Israel has left Lebanon and has no intention of returning. Nevertheless, Peres was critical of the Syrian intervention.

[Begin Peres recording] It is an attempt by the Syrians to deepen not only their presence but also their occupation of Lebanon against the legitimate position of the president of Lebanon. [end recording]

'Secret Diplomacy' Anticipated

TA230921 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 23 Feb 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by Yosi Melman and Dan Avidan]

[Excerpt] Israel will carry out quiet and secret diplomacy with regard to the entry of the Syrian Army in Beirut, and will not issue public statements that would exacerbate the situation. This was stated last night by political sources in Jerusalem in the wake of the dispute emerging within the government over the latest developments in Lebanon.

The diplomatic contacts will be held through Washington, which will try to obtain explanations from Damascus about its intentions. [passage omitted]

Military Experts View Movement

TA231751 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] The Syrian force which began deploying in Beirut recently numbers 10,000 soldiers and includes commando and armored units. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports the force does not include ground-to-air missile batteries. Military experts told our correspondent sooner or later the Syrians will apparently have to thin out their forces in Lebanon, because it is an extremely difficult mission to maintain such a large force there. The military sources also told our correspondent they know nothing about any Syrian Army movement southward, in the direction of the security zone, and the Syrian force is deploying only in Beirut and its vicinity.

Shamir: 'We Will Watch Them'

TA240609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] Speaking in New York last night, Prime Minister Shamir said Israel would take care of her interests in regard to Syrian moves in the Lebanon. He was speaking to a meeting of the Jewish community's relations council's young leadership group.

[Begin Shamir recording] We don't know what they are going to do there. We will watch them, and they have to know that we are watching them, and Israel will in any case take care of her interests and her security. [end recording]

Rabin on 'Freedom of Action'

TA241212 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1155 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that at this point there is nothing that forces Israel to make any decision regarding the new Syrian involvement in Lebanon. Rabin said this after leaving the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Our correspondent in the Knesset Hayim Zissowitz reports:

[Begin Rabin recording] If your question refers to a geographical line, then I have no intention of describing it. Our position is clear: We are opposed to a deeper Syrian military involvement in Lebanon, that is, in Beirut. We are using the intelligence means at our disposal to follow all that is happening in Lebanon. We reserve for ourselves complete freedom of action in the event that Israel's direct security interests are harmed. [end recording]

Syria Said Sought USSR Help for War 'This Summer'

TA220655 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 22 Feb 87 pp 1, 18

[Report by Middle East affairs correspondent 'Uzi Mahanaymi]

[Text] London — President al-Asad recently asked the Soviets for backing in a war against Israel this summer.

Knowledgeable sources in London who reported this to our correspondent pointed out the request was made during a secret visit the Syrian leader recently paid to Moscow. The Soviets responded negatively to Al-Asad's request.

During his secret visit to Moscow, the Syrian president asked the Soviets for an urgent supply of improved T-72 tanks and MiG-29 planes, which Damascus has long been awaiting.

The sources in London confirmed General Muhammad al-Khuli, commander of the Syrian Air Force intelligence, was indeed dismissed by President al-Asad.

Shamir Comments on Results of U.S. Visit

TA202015 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1820 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Report from Washington by Nisim Mish'al, including portions of Mish'al interview with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir — videotaped]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Mish'al] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, whose visit to the United States came amid fear and skepticism, took this view of his visit:

[Shamir] Nearly all the goals of this visit have been met. Before I left, people claimed the visit would prove very problematic, and it was clouded by all sorts of recent difficulties. It turned out all this proved to be wrong. Our relations with the United States are strong and firm.

[Mish'al] During the first 4 days of his visit, the prime minister went through many dinners, receptions, and handshakes. It seemed as though official Washington was going out of its way to embrace Mr Shamir warmly. All of the top U.S. leadership showed up at the reception held last night by Vice President George Bush, including cabinet members, senators, House members, and other personages from all branches of the Administration.

There also followed an abundance of colorful ceremonies and processions, as well as many shows of friendship. But among the receptions, bitter questions were raised, and there were expressions of fear and wonder about the undercurrent in relations between the two countries. [passage omitted]

The visit was also accompanied by public disagreements. Some would say they were merely an expression of tactical differences of opinion and a search for means to effect a breakthrough, but nothing more. However, the fact remains that an extraordinary event occurred not seen in Washington for a long time: an Israeli prime minister and a U.S. secretary of state appearing before the press and expressing different views on a central issue. [passage omitted]

[Mish'al] Allow me to quote Shim'on Peres, who said: If Israel opposes an international conference, it will in effect be killing peace.

[Shamir] This statement verges on the scandalous. Israel has expressed its opposition to the Soviet-Arab form of an international conference for many years — this for the sake of peace and, may I add, for the sake of Israel's safety.

[Mish'al] The day after this confrontation, both sides realized that it was necessary to smooth the edges and dispel the impression left by this dispute. The Americans consequently rushed to signal they were prepared to raise the idea broached by Mr Shamir that a limited international conference be held, without the Soviets.

[Shamir] The advantage of such negotiations would be that they would be based on conviction rather than on coercion, that no one would have to follow decisions made by an international tribunal [preceding word in English]. I have suggested a mini-conference, along the lines of a mini-United Nations.

[Mish'al] What if King Husayn rejects this suggestion?

[Shamir] What if we do not accept a different suggestion?

[Mish'al] Then what?

[Shamir] Then we will continue to hold talks until we achieve our goals. After all, we have existed for more than 40 years facing the Arab countries refusal to join direct negotiations.

[Mish'al] The prime minister did not bring a shopping list with him to Washington. At the most, there were a number of practical defense-related items he had to work out with his hosts, particularly with Secretary of Defense Weinberger.

[Shamir] I cannot go into detail, but there are certain things they have thus far refused us and are now prepared to consent on, which involve both a strengthening of relations and economic matters directly related to the defense establishment.

[Mish'al] Some feared that in contrast to the Administration's demonstrated warmth, Mr Shamir would encounter a measure of suspicion from Congress. However, it turned out both houses showed great sympathy toward Israel. Even there, the members preferred to overlook the nagging questions and the as-yet unsolved problems. [passage omitted]

A number of events scheduled to take place in the coming weeks are still expected to cause Jerusalem a few sleepless nights and to cast a shadow over Israeli-U.S. ties: the sentence in the Jonathan Pollard trial; the publication of the report issued by the presidential investigations committee on the Iran affair, which will apparently also refer to Israel's role; and the publication of the State Department report on Israeli-South African ties, a report which is not likely to satisfy Israel.

The prime minister's visit has proved Israeli-U.S. ties are strong and firm, albeit not lacking in problems. It seems in the next month, as we said, these relations will encounter another test, and the results of the prime minister's visit will be re-examined.

Continuing Reportage on Peace Summit Controversy

Beilin Reports EC Meeting

TA212018 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy may launch another round of Middle East talks as early as in the next few weeks in a bid to bridge the gaps over direct peace negotiations by way of an international conference. This was reported this evening by senior political sources who spoke with our political correspondent. The U.S. Department of State sent a position paper to the EC this week expressing support for the idea of an international conference as a way to help direct negotiations between the Middle East countries. In 2 days the EC foreign ministers will hold a special meeting devoted to the Middle East situation. Dr Yosi Beilin, the Foreign Ministry's political director general, returned to Israel last night from a tour of talks with EC foreign ministers and other senior officials. He is interviewed by our political correspondent Yig'al Goren:

[Goren] Good evening, Dr Beilin. From your talks in Europe, could you say these countries, or rather the EC, support the idea of an international conference?

[Beilin] Yes, without a doubt. I believe this will furthermore be manifest in their meeting on Monday, which is significant, in which they will address the issue of an international conference and support it.

[Goren] In your meetings in Europe, did you represent the position of the foreign minister, who supports an international conference, or that of the prime minister, who opposes it?

[Beilin] In all my meetings I represented Israel and its government. On the issues discussed, I also presented the official government position.

[Goren] Which is?

[Beilin] Manifest in Mr Peres' UN General Assembly speech, when he was prime minister, was Israeli acceptance of an international conference providing it does not constitute a substitute for direct negotiations and does not veto bilateral committee resolutions. [sentence as heard]

[Goren] Practically speaking, is there any importance to the European countries' position on the international conference?

[Beilin] Judging by the meetings I held, primarily with Danish Foreign Minister Ellemann-Jensen and with Italian Foreign Minister Mr Giulio Andreotti, there is presently both an interest and a desire and readiness to, more than ever before, enter into what the Europeans conceive as a growing vacuum, created by the U.S. isolation and its introversion. The Europeans are consequently showing greater willingness to get more deeply involved in finding a solution to the Middle East conflict. There is, naturally, great interest in Israel's participation in this, as well, because whileI was in Europe, representatives of various Arab countries, including Kuwait, Jordan, and Palestinians, were also there, trying to influence the decision to be adopted this coming Monday.

[Goren] Under such circumstances, how can Israel explain its current position on the international conference, while the argument at home is so bitter?

[Beilin] This is a real problem, and of course it was also raised in the talks. The foreign ministers are very well versed in what is happening in Israel, and never asked me to explain to them what Israel says about an international conference. They have heard the foreign minister and previous pronouncements and know Israel has exerted great efforts over the past 2 years to prepare an international conference with which it will feel comfortable. They realize negotiations were conducted through the Americans and there are 10 points; it is not as though this is merely a declarative matter. So they asked me: Tell us what is happening; is the prime minister's opposition to this not the end of the story? Well, there is a real problem here, beyond the formal question of whether Israel supports an international conference — and you are familiar with my views, which I reported to you. It is not easy to dismiss this opposition, nor can it be simply ignored.

[Goren] How do Israel's ambassadors explain this?

[Beilin] They are in a serious dilemma, shared by all of Israel's envoys. What in my humble opinion is required, without entering into the substantial matter of the solution, is a decision by Israel, by the Israeli Government, to stipulate what the road will be: Will the cabinet decide to revoke all previous resolutions favoring an international conference and pursuing this line, or will it say: Let us continue to examine, let us pursue negotiations, and when we reach an end, we will then make a decision. After all, this cabinet is founded on a consensus, not on fundamental-ideological issues, but on the operative-technical plane. The Alignment-Likud differences, or those between the foreign minister and the prime minister, go far deeper than the question of the international conference, and revolve also around a territorial compromise or the Reagan plan. Their differences are very deep, but still they have reached certain understandings. If there is no understanding, agreement, or a resolution on the matter, our ambassadors or other envoys will find it very difficult to explain the Israeli position on a matter which for us is pivotal.

[Goren] Thank you very much, Dr Beilin.

[Beilin] Thank you.

Shamir Attacks Peres

TA220629 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says he decided to express his opposition to the international conference idea while in the United States to prevent Vice Prime Minister Peres from continuing to sell this idea in the future, as he put it. Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer spoke with the prime minister over the weekend.

[Begin Schiffer recording] I do not understand what he wants to achieve. He is not thinking about the results. The 'he' refers to Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, and the speaker was Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Over the weekend in his Los Angeles hotel, Mr Shamir decided to react to the criticism in Israel voiced by Mr Peres and Labor Party officials.

This is what Prime Minister Shamir had to say concerning the international conference: I did not come to the United States to argue with Administration leaders. I have decided in cool judgement to publicly express my opinion on this issue, without leaving any room for doubt. My goal was to prevent Mr Peres from continuing to sell this idea. In the future when he raises this issue he will be asked about Shamir's position, which rejects a conference. Who then does he represent?

Regarding the Soviet Union, Shamir said: I also would have liked normal relations with the Soviet Union, but I am not willing to pay for this. I heard Peres is looking for an invitation to the Soviet Union to meet Gorbachev. This is what people are saying. He is always looking for invitations. Only someone who supports Israel's return to the 1967 borders and the establishment of a Palestinian state can speak for the return of the Soviet Union to our region as a partner to an international conference.

Regarding Irangate Shamir said: What did I say? Only that I did not know all the details; and now I want to ask: Did Peres know all the details?

Regarding the visit to the United States he said: Most of the bleak forecasts regarding what I could expect during the visit did not materialize. My private meeting with Mr Shultz was what you correspondents call a heart-to-heart meeting. We are very close in our stands. [end recording]

Alignment ministers have attacked the prime minister's remarks, claiming they were motivated by partisan reasons. This is reported by our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami.

Bar'am Views Peres Stance

TA221719 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Shim'on Peres has recently reached political understandings with Arab elements which have not yet been publicized. This was stated this evening by Labor Party Secretary 'Uzi Bar'am in an interview with the Voice of Israel. Mr Bar'am said this is one of the reasons why Mr Peres reached the conclusion the national unity government had reached the end of its course on the issue of peace.

He went on to disclose that in a meeting he had held with Mr Peres the latter told him he would not be able to discharge his duties as foreign minister if he had no backing for his political moves. At the same time, Bar'am said, the Labor Party has not yet reached the conclusion that now is the time to disband the government.

Alignment Sees Coalition End

TA222002 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Senior Alignment ministers believe Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has decided to end the national unity government. Our party affairs correspondent Dan Raviv reports that in the wake of Shamir's utterances in Washington Alignment sources say the prime minister has been behaving in the Unites States as if he were conducting a coast-to-coast election campaign, his target being the expected confrontation with David Levi, rather than the peace process.

So, the tension between the Alignment and the Likud continues to mount. This tension will increase even further when the prime minister returns from the United States. Our political correspondent Yig'al Goren reports from the studio:

The relationship between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has reached an unprecedented low in the last few days — this assessment is the current, unanimous view in the Likud and the Alignment. Yitzhaq Shamir has taken off his gloves and has been levelling sharp criticism at Shim'on Peres in the course of his visit in the United States, particularly in the political sphere. On the other hand, Peres, who according to his associates is in a combative mood, has been countering Shamir's criticism in kind both in public and in private meetings.

The relationship between the two men has deteriorated for different reasons. Observers estimate Yitzhaq Shamir is aiming his attacks for the upcoming showdown for the leadership of the Likud, while Shim'on Peres no longer regards Shamir as the man capable of steering the government at a time of economic crisis and lead it to progress in the peace process.

Alignment ministers say today Peres was very hurt by the Likud's attacks against him on the question of the peace process and is prepared to assume responsibility for bringing relations with Shamir to a head. As for Shamir, these ministers say, his generosity threshhold is very low due to his internal problems within the Likud.

Meanwhile, the Likud continues to accuse Shim'on Peres of stoking an artificial argument on the question of peace, an argument for which Israel might pay a very costly political price. In any event, both the Alignment and the Likud agree the correct relationship between Peres and Shamir, which had until recently been the panacea to the numerous crises afflicting the national unity government, is now on the verge of crumbling.

Consequently, it appears the government is headed for a genuine crisis this time. If relations between the two men do not change after Shamir's return to Israel the government is headed for serious shocks.

Peres To Leave for Egypt Before Shamir Return

TA231538 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1530 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] In approximately half an hour a joint communique will be issued in Cairo and Jerusalem on Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' visit to Egypt. Mr Peres will depart for Cairo Wednesday morning and will meet with the leaders of the Egyptian Administration, headed by Mubarak, for 2 days.

Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports Mr Peres' talks will center around the peace process and the possibility of convening an international peace conference.

According to the plan Mr Peres will depart to Egypt several hours before Prime Minister Shamir returns from his visit to the United States.

Peres on Shamir Approval

TA231739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Interview With Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by Dan Eshel on 23 February; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Peres] We have begun the peace process; it must be continued. The peace process is not a one-time leap forward or an isolated event. If we do not cultivate it and work for it it will collapse. I consider the visit to Egypt another step on the road to the peace process and as a way of cultivating it.

[Eshel] Will the international conference be one of the issues you will discuss?

[Peres] Various issues will be discussed; I have no intention of changing my views.

[Eshel] Does Mr Shamir know about your trip?

[Peres] Yes. We informed him about it before the final date was set.

[Eshel] Does he approve of the visit?

[Peres] I do not need approval; I do not work for anybody.

Shamir: Government May Disband

TA231911 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres will leave for Cairo on Wednesday to confer with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. Peres says he will discuss the continuation of the peace process with Mubarak and, if need be, the issue of an international conference as well.

A few minutes ago, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said Shim'on Peres had briefed him about his upcoming trip to Cairo and noted he regards it as a routine working meeting between two foreign ministers and nothing beyond that. Shamir added: Shim'on Peres has no authority whatsoever to reach any agreement with President Mubarak about an international conference. Shamir made these remarks a few minutes ago to our correspondent in the United States Nisim Mish'al.

In reply to a question by our correspondent as to whether the government may disband, Mr Shamir said: That may definitely be the case

Sources close to the prime minister told our political correspondent Peres' trip to Egypt raises a basic question about Peres' honesty toward the prime minister.

The Alignment Knesset faction says all that worries the Likud is the Herut convention rather than the international conference.

Further Shamir Comments

TA240543 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] Shim'on Peres has no authority to make any agreements concerning the international conference during his upcoming visit to Egypt. This was said last night by Prime Minister Shamir in a speech to heads of Jewish organizations in New York. Shamir also spoke about the recent crises rocking the government. Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports from New York:

[Begin recording] [Schiffer] Apparently the prime minister does not want to exacerbate relations with the vice prime minister because he does not want to bring about early elections. Appearing before the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Shamir said he and his Likud colleagues will do everything possible to prevent early elections. He added, however, that this does not depend only on the Likud, but also on the Alignment. Regarding Mr Peres' upcoming visit to Egypt, the prime minister told me last night:

[Shamir] I knew there was a plan for the foreign minister to visit Egypt. He does not require my approval to do so; he needs the government's approval for his departure, just as any minister needs such an approval. However, if you ask me I can only say he is entitled to discuss all the bilateral issues while in Egypt, but he has no authority to make any decisions or agreements regarding an international conference before the government adopts a decision on it.

[Schiffer] In his public appearance, Mr Shamir said he and his colleagues will never accept the international conference idea: This is a danger and a threat to our future. Concerning Mr Peres' remark that whoever is against an international conference is killing peace, Mr Shamir said not even one Arab country has told us we must decide between an international conference and a war; this is an Israeli-made idea. [end recording]

Likud Demands Trip Delay

TA240532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] Likud ministers have called on Shim'on Peres to receive cabinet authorization for his trip to Egypt. The Voice of Israel's political affairs reporter says several ministers have demanded Peres not depart before Premier Shamir returns from the United States.

Alignment ministers have countered that while Shamir is conducting an election campaign in the United States, Peres is continuing the peace process and will therefore go to Egypt tomorrow.

Peres on Shamir Remarks

TA240640 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres at his residence by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami and Arye Golan in the studio — live over the telephone]

[Text] [Golan] Sir, the prime minister believes your departure to Egypt might cause the government to disband. Do you think so?

[Peres] I have not heard this. I guess we were listening to two different radio stations. However, one can not threaten to disband the government. This government must accomplish two things. This has been agreed upon. We do not serve one another; we all serve the nation. I do not serve the Likud, just as I do not expect Mr Shamir to serve the Alignment. There are two main issues: the peace process and restoring the economy. We have taken these tasks upon ourselves and they are what we are working for. These are two difficult and serious issues, and it is purposeless to turn them into political issues.

It is my duty as a citizen and a representative of the people to do everything possible to bring peace to Israel without compromising its interests or security. Everything we have done in the past 2 years has been done publicly. I raised the issues in the Knesset four times, and Mr Shamir read my speeches. Nobody in the Likud thought this approach represented a grave danger over the past 2 years. I believe we should pursue this process.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Peres, we want to understand something about your talks in Egypt tomorrow. Do you actually intend to continue with what took place in Alexandria last September?

[Peres] What do you think — that I will travel 1 month and say one thing, and then in another month say something else? What country behaves in that way?

[Ben-'Ami] It would indeed be normal for one to pursue the Alexandria agreement. Our question is whether, considering the stiff opposition to an international peace conference by half the government, you can reach any agreements with President Mubarak?

[Peres] First, I must be cautious in what I say. I do not think we can overcome our difficulties with one stroke. I do not want to create such an expectation because it would be erroneous. The peace process is a long and difficult process. On the other hand, deterioration of this process can be swift. Therefore, I do not want to create false expectations.

However, if anybody thinks an issue such as this could cause the government to disband, he should have expressed opposition when the issue was first raised. During the past 2 years I have informed the Knesset and other nations. Apparently the opposition was not serious for the past 2 and 1/4 years; I do not know why it has suddenly become serious now. However, I acted in public and informed the Knesset, and I am proud to work both for our security, which is a condition for defending the country and for the peace efforts, and for peace. I want to say another thing because there is a misunderstanding: We all support direct negotiations; there are no disagreements on this issue. I am saying, however, that if to arrive at direct negotiations we have to open with an international forum or under an international umbrella, I see no danger in this. In any case, just as the Arabs cannot make peace without Israel, Israel cannot make peace without the Arabs. We must find a framework that will enable us to hold direct negotiations. We were not the ones who brought the idea of an international conference...

[Ben-'Ami, interrupting] Excuse me, is this a Jordanian and an Egyptian condition for direct negotiations in the framework...

[Peres, interrupting] Yes. We must understand the Jordanians agree to direct negotiations on the condition they open within the framework of an international conference. We have no intention of holding the negotiations with the Russians or the Americans — people are saying absolutely unfounded things about this. Neither will they do the negotiating for us, God forbid. The negotiations will be held directly between Jordan and us, and Egypt and us. The opening will be through an international conference. This has been known to take place in the past.

[Golan] Mr Peres, one question regarding peaceful relations between the Likud and the Alignment. We understand the announcement regarding your trip to Egypt was conveyed to Yosi Ben-Aharon, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, yesterday evening. Why did you not discuss such an important trip to Egypt directly with the prime minister, to coordinate your positions?

[Peres] You are constantly making false accusations. The funeral of Me'ir Ya'ari [former MAPAM leader] was held yesterday and I was on the road all day long. I did not speak with Ben-Aharon at all; I think it was Yosi Beilin who spoke with him, because I was on the road all day. Besides, Mr Shamir also did not hold any consultations before he left for the United States, because we all are more or less familiar with the situation; we are not beginners with regard to this issue. Let us therefore not exaggerate the need for consultations.

[Golan] Does the situation not actually show both of you have in fact reached the conclusion that this government has exhausted itself, as 'Ezer Weizman says?

[Peres] Look, the government is not an end in itself. It is a means, an opportunity to serve the nation. The goal is to continue the peace process and to rehabilitate the economy. This, too, requires great efforts. By the way, I think we should improve the atmosphere with regard to these two issues.

[Ben-'Ami] The question is whether this is possible under the present circumstances.

[Peres] I do not know. I only know we have been doing this for 2 years. Despite the fact that there were two big parties and several small parties, we maintained an atmosphere that enabled us to heal the economy and to hold a dialogue. I think all these statements — and I do not know who is responsible for them — about a bad mood do not add anything. This is not serious talk. We are facing extremely difficult economic problems — wage problems, inflation. We cannot indulge in squabbles of secondary importance, if they have any importance at all. Let me repeat: The two issues facing us are healing the economy and the peace process, and all the partisan and personal ambitions, all the petty accounts have to be made subordinate to this; otherwise we will miss the main thing.

[Golan] Do you not feel neutralized by the fact you have no authority to conclude anything in Egypt?

[Peres] Do you want to spoil my mood? I do not feel neutralized; I am active and I am doing everything I can and should do. As you know, I also intervened — at the request of the entire government — in the attempt to conclude the state budget to save the economic plan. I am busy with other things as well. As you know I am also the head of a party and I have two jobs: I am the foreign minister and the vice prime minister. I am also busy with the country's domestic issues.

[Ben-'Ami] So, you will leave for Egypt tomorrow in a good mood?

[Peres] Certainly, an excellent mood.

Force 17, DFLP Claim Jerusalem Explosion

NC221828 Paris AFP in English 1817 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Jerusalem, Feb 22 (AFP) — An explosion Sunday wounded 13 Israeli soldiers and five civilians, including two Arab residents, in the old city of Jerusalem, Israeli military sources said.

All the wounded were taken to hospital, but only one — an elite Israeli border guard — was in serious condition, the military said. Another 11 border guards and an Israeli soldier also were wounded.

An anonymous telephone caller later claimed responsibility for the explosion on behalf of Force 17, an elite unit of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

(In Damascus, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) claimed responsibility, saying the explosion had been caused by a hand grenade.

(The attack occurred on the "18th anniversary of the founding of the DFLP," the announcement said.)

The blast occurred as a jeep carrying a border patrol passed by the Damascus Gate, the military said.

Dozens of Arab suspects — mostly Palestinian youths — were seen forced to kneel down to await interrogation as mounted and border police reinforcements blocked and combed the area.

LIBYA

Tripoli TV Shows U.S. Aircraft Wreckage

LD212213 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Basic People's Congress masses in (Al Zawyah) municipality have found some wreckage of a U.S. F-111-type fighter aircraft that took part in the barbaric U.S.-Atlantic failed aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah last April.

The aircraft was shot down by the Libyan Arab air defense systems. The sea has washed up a lot of debris and parts from U.S. aircraft that were destroyed and downed when they took part in the barbaric aggression against the Libyan Arab People. [Video shows the feet of two persons standing before a pile of electric wires, mixed with pieces of metal. The camera moves to close-up of three square connection boxes fitted in a deformed piece of metal, then to a wheel, then to a deformed piece of metal with four rectangular holes in it. A close-up shows a large piece of metal with "FI-OW" and "install arrow pointing fwd" printed on it. The camera moves to a close-up of electric connections, a small rectangular piece of metal with screws in the side, and a semicircular opening at its end. Follows a close-up of a large gray-green piece of wreckage, then a close-up of a red circular piece of metal, embossed with "F111" in three places. The camera moves back, and the circular red piece of metal is shown to be the center of a wheel. The camera then shows a rectangular piece of metal with a hole cut in its top right corner and another hole at the top near the left corner, each about 10 cm in diameter; at the bottom there are four square connection boxes, two of them about 8 cm x 8 cm, and the other two about 5 cm x 5 cm]

JANA on 'Scandal' of U.S. 'Assassination Attempt'

LD231930 Tripoli JANA in English 1752 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Tripoli, al Nowar 23, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — JANA's domestic affars editor commented on the facts published by U.S. press on the scandal of U.S. aggression against Great Jamahiriyah and the assassination attempt on the leader of the revolution, by saying:

'The Americans are about to witness with their own eyes an American era where the number of their politicians' scandals will match the number of the stars on the American flag. Since the small actor set foot in the 'Black' House, the American citizen sleeps on a political scandal only to awake to a bigger and more horrific one. U.S. TV and broadcasting networks, press and...etc, have become specialised in allocating never-ending pages and files to the scandals of its President.

'In the midst of this scandalous atmosphere, the American and world public opinion at large witnessed the new facts — by their own folks evidence — that confirm beyond doubt that those in charge of policy making in the U.S. had no links in such field and that their behaviour — secret or public — is one of highwaymen and outlaws with no moral or cultural conducts.

'What does a man about to enter into the 21st century call the massing by a super power of forces capable of invading more than one state to assassinate the leader of the revolution and members of his family?

'More than 50 aircraft fly for 14 hours on a 5,400 mile mission, the like of which has not been [seen] in peace time.

'100 artificial satellites orbit from far northern Europe to the north of Africa.

'Giant bombers, flying fortresses and 1000 kilogrammes bombs.

'Laborious meetings of head of intelligence, his senior aides, his National Security Council, his commanders of Air Force, Army and Navy.

'The most modern spying and bugging electronic equipment placed in more than one state. [quotation marks as received]

No doubt who ever reads that, which is exactly what *'The New York Times'* U.S. daily published yesterday, expects at the first instance that these are pointers to a decision on war against a super power or against a whole pact. But, the reality — scandal — is as the newspaper itself says: (This huge amassing has no real target but to assassinate the leader of the Great al-Fatih Revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi). Then the U.S. Administration did not find it odd to surround this unique operation with a campaign of lies, misinformation and deceit to the U.S. and world public opinion.

Very quickly all was exposed and in turn it became a scandal added to its black record.

JANA's domestic affairs editor went on to say:

'The world public opinion realises, as did before it the heads that plotted that black scheme, that the dimensions of the assassination attempt on the life of the leader did not stop at the personal assassination, but it is a more comprehensive attempt repeatedly planned for a target that was previously named:

'The assassination of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the people's revolution, the Green Book and the masses' authority.

'To eliminate Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi — the unionist hope of the Arab nation and the nationalist project, the promise, hitting the new Islamic awakening and the renewing African revolution, and to end the hope of the world oppressed and enslaved people by killing the person — Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

'This is exactly what they have wanted by their plot. But it is the struggle between good and evil the inevitable outcome of which was, their efforts were in vain and the will of justice was victorious. [quotation marks as received]

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi remained leader of the Great al-Fatih Revolution, proud as a symbol of struggle above all and their mean schemes befallen and their bombs exploded in their faces.

'Where are those terrorists, the forces of darkness and evil and where is the Libyan Arab people and the leader of its great revolution?

'Here is our people celebrate [as received] the 10th anniversary of the declaration of the establishment of its authority and the birth of the first jamahiriyah in history. Yonder is the General People's Congress on the doorsteps to embody the people's authority as a reality on earth, after it used to be a dream that tickled the minds of nations, their philosophers and their researchers.

'There they are reaping scandals and defeats, the lowest end they deserve.

'The U.S. Administration can be summarised and known as scandal. Its President enters into the weightlessness state in the storm of scandals which he planted and he had reaped in both hands, unregretted flakey. [sentence as received]

'The carrier — Britain — from which U.S. aircraft had taken off to aggression has not had its scandals and successive political defeats. [sentence as received] Its child-murderer head is threatened with losing her rotten seat.

'France that opened its air spaces for U.S. crows to pass through is savaged by strikes and disturbances...split inside the presidency palace, shaken economy, and a military involvement in the burning African sands.'

JANA's domestic affairs editor went on:

'Even on the level of individuals who executed the degrading deed, the commander of the Sixth Fleet was was assigned with carrying out the aggression — died in mysterious circumstances outside his country and his family still demand and chase the U.S. Government to reveal the causes of such death. John Poindexter the plotting head of the aggression and his culprits Oliver North and MacFarlane were ousted and are being chased by scandals and comments of ridicule and tomfoolery. Larry Speakes who was flooding reporters with his statements and results of his aggression on Great Jamahiriyah, he was toppled also and went out of political arena in shame to join the pondering trade. And today they are joined by, as news reported, the senior Black House servant Donald Regan'.

The editor concluded:

'This is the just conclusion which we did not expect any other. That is: The Great al-Fatih Revolution and its leader come out victorious, the Libyan Arab people ascend in the greatness of its nationalist revolutionary role — in Africa and in the world, and the enemies are crushed and end in the dust bin of history chased by curses and the smell of defeat'.

Additional JANA Comment

LD231952 Tripoli JANA in English 1823 GMT 23 Feb 87

["Commentary by JANA's domestic affairs editor" — JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, Al Nowar 23, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — 'Dan Howard' the official spokesman of the U.S Black House denied what the U.S press and media had asserted that the failed U.S. barbarous aggression on 15 Al Tayr - April 1986 against Great Jamahiriyah was aimed at assassinating the leader of the revolution.

Howard said: 'The attacking aircraft simply missed their target which was a military one - and hit the residence of Al-Qadhdhafi by mistake'.

Howard has dismissed the assertions of 'Seymour Hirsch' *The New York Times'* editor which he received from 70 officials and officers in the U.S Air Force security and intelligence services, and which said exactly:

'Undoubtedly they were looking for Al-Qadhdhafi; they were determined to kill him'.

JANA's domestic affairs editor commented by saying:

'The U.S denial carries its opposite within itself. An impartial observer can detect from the denial words that they contradict themselves and label the one who utter them as an idiot.

'How can one believe that the actual preparations for the aggression had started in 1981 and the search for means to take the leader out of the international arena before that date and in the end they can miss their target despite the use of the most advanced military techniques and science the least of which the laser-guided bombs?

'How can one explain the statements of Israel's mad dog minutes after his barbarous aggression that (our aeroplanes have hit their targets with absolute accuracy) followed by congratulations to his pilots?

'The U.S Administration before anyone else realises that it is lying and that the recent statements are nothing but a vain attempt to preserve what water remained in its face - which has lost all of it in the series of scandal of administration is experiencing.

'The denial carries a character of a claim which failed to go beyond the press briefing hall of the Black House. 'Dan Howard' has failed in persuading the reporters who winked in ridicule at his attempt to evade the truth.

'He said that the mad dog, who has not yet been able to leave the swamp of his recent scandals and the assimilation of his lies on the American people and the world public opinion, realities before anyone else that the denial of his official spokesman will never find who believes it, or even to take the trouble to listen to it. [sentence as received]

'Sooner or later, Israel's mad dog is bound to fall. The time he will spend in the Oval Office will not be longer than a white chicken's life. The American memory will keep in black his era for ever. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will remain a leader of a nation, an inspiration, a teacher of a lively force which spreads on earth as does the red nerve spreads in the body spreading goodness and preach salvation and realisation of happiness'. [sentence as received]

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Ugandan Chief of Staff

LD231857 Tripoli JANA in English 1822 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al Nowar 23, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The leader of the revolution received Mr. 'Eliy Tumwine' the chief of the staff of the Ugandan Armed Forces.

Ugandan Public Service Minister Arrives on Visit

LD232027 Tripoli JANA in English 1812 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al Nawar 23, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Mr David Kibirango, the Ugandan minister of public service, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli at noon today to attend the 12th session of the General People's Congress and the Libyan Arab people's celebrations of the 10th anniversary of the declaration of the establishment of people's authority and the birth of the first jamahiriyah in history.

He told JANA, on arrival at Tripoli International Airport, that Great Jamahiriyah and Uganda together face imperialist-colonialist challenges in the African Continent and unreservedly support the struggle of Africans against imperialist-colonialist domination and control.

He said that this visit will enable him and the members of his accompanying delegation to witness how the Libyan Arab people is practicing direct people's democracy through its Basic People's Congresses.

He asserted that his country strongly condemns the direct French-U.S. intervention in the affairs of the Chadian people.

General People's Congress To Meet 25 February

LD221238 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1150 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Feb *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The Secretariat of the General People's Congress has issued Decision No 6 for 1987 inviting the General People's Congress to meet. The following is the text of the invitation:

After taking cognizance of the proclamation of the people's authority:

Article 1: The General People's Congress is hereby invited to hold its 12th ordinary session at 0900 [0700 GMT] Wednesday, 26 Jumada al-Akhir 1396 after the death of the Prophet, corresponding to 25 Nuwwar [February] 1987.

Article 2: This decision will come into force as of the date of its issuance and will be published in the *Official Gazette*.

The Secretariat of the General People's Congress.

MOROCCO

Prime Minister Receives French Air Force Chief

LD232119 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] This evening, Prime Minister Dr Azzedine Laraki received General Achille Lerche, chief of staff of the French Air Force, who was accompanied by the French ambassador in Rabat, Philippe Cuvillier. The meeting provided an opportunity for the two sides to review the excellent relations between the two countries and issues of mutual concern. The meeting was attended by Major General Mohamed Kabbaj, inspector-general of the Royal Air Force, and by the prime minister's senior aides.

Soviet Journalists Conclude Visit to Rabat

LD211312 Rabat MAP in English 1240 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Rabat, Feb 21 (MAP) — A delegation of Soviet journalists visited Morocco Feb 10 through 20 at the invitation of the Moroccan Press Union.

Soviet reporters visited several cities and conferred with Moroccan journalists, officials and elects, as well as members of the Press Union.

A communique released at the end of the visit stressed readiness to further consolidate cooperation and friendship between the two countries.

The Soviet side, says the communique, expressed understanding for Moroccan efforts to preserve territorial rights and peacefully recover the enclaves still under Spanish occupation.

The two sides voiced support to the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO and invited Iraq and Iran to stop the war, the communique added.

SUDAN

Al-Hindi Denies Territory Used by 'Foreign Force'

JN201118 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1055 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Feb (SUNA) — Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has denied Sudan has allowed a foreign force to use its territory against its neighbors and has emphasized Sudan has not allowed and will not allow such a thing. Al-Hindi's statement was in response to an article published in the French newspaper *Le Monde* on 19 February which referred to the massing of French forces in (?Abeche) and Biltine in eastern Chad. Sudan has declared a neutral stand on the current conflict in Chad and has sought to achieve peace and stability in Chad by bringing about reconciliation among Chadians and good-neighborly relations between Chad and Libya.

Soviet Parliamentary Group Continues Visit

Confers With Al-Hindi

JN211527 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Feb (SUNA) — The visiting USSR parliamentary delegation led by Suleyman Tatliev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has asserted to Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, that Soviet technical delegations will arrive in Sudan soon to discuss with Sudanese technicians ways to contain the problems facing institutions set up in Sudan by the USSR. While receiving the USSR parliamentary delegation today, Al-Hindi also reviewed bilateral relations and ways to bolster and promote them. The Middle East and South African problems were also discussed during the meeting.

Al-Hindi said the USSR parliamentary delegation's visit will promote relations between the two countries following their coolness during the May regime's era. His excellency the USSR ambassador in Khartoum and Constituent Assembly member 'Ali 'Uthman al-Khalifah attended the meeting.

The USSR parliamentary delegation arrived in the country on an official visit last Tuesday.

Meets With Education Minister

JN211616 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1442 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Feb (SUNA) — Today Education Minister Bakri Ahmad 'Adil met with the USSR parliamentary delegation currently visiting the country, led by Dr Suleyman Tatliev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

In a statement after the meeting, the minister explained that they discussed aspects of cultural cooperation and exchange between Sudan and the USSR and the possibility of expanding them. He said he proposed a joint committee from the two countries be formed to discuss in detail aspects of cultural cooperation. The delegation promised to study this proposal after it returns home.

Visits Central Region

JN221853 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Madani (Sudan) Feb. 22, (SUNA) — Governor of the central region, Faruq Isma'il, has received here Sunday the visiting Soviet parlimentary delegation.

In a reception ceremony speech, the governor lauded the Soviet Union's support to the developing countries expressing hope that the delegation's current visit would help open channels of dialogue between the two countries for the aim of boosting trade, industrial and economic relations between them.

The head of the Soviet delegation, on his turn, said that their visit to the central region was meant to let them get acknowledged [as received] with the regional governments and Sudanese parliamentary shape adding that they also want to assess the local potentialities.

The Soviet delegation chairman also pointed out that the Soviet Union seeks to establish great and solid relations with the developing countries within the lap of the Soviet Presidium 27th session's resolutions.

Talks With Al-Mahdi, Others

JN231527 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Feb (SUNA) — Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi received a USSR parliamentary delegation under Dr Suleyman Tatilev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, here today. 'Ali 'Uthman al-Khalifah, member of the Constituent Assembly, and the USSR ambassador in Khartoum attended the meeting.

The head of the USSR delegation told the press he and the prime minister discussed ways to promote Sudanese-Soviet cooperation. He also said he is happy with the results of his talks with Sudanese officials. The USSR official said he has extended an invitation to a Constituent Assembly delegation to visit the USSR.

Industry Minister 'Abdallah al-Fadil also received the USSR parliamentary delegation this morning. Constituent Assembly member 'Ali 'Uthman al-Khalifah attended the meeting. The USSR official told the press that talks during the meeting dealt with Sudanese-USSR relations under the canopy of the democratic regime, the reconstruction of Soviet plants in Sudan and the need to carry this out as quickly as possible, and ways to promote cooperation in food industries and the production of medicine.

Constituent Assembly Speaker Prof Muhammad Ibrahim Khalil also received the USSR parliamentary delegation today. The head of the USSR delegation said the topics discussed during the meeting dealt with ways to promote bilateral relations.

The USSR delegation will hold a news conference in the Constituent Assembly on Wednesday to discuss the results of its visit to Sudan.

Al-Hindi Rules Out Eritrea Deal With Ethiopia

JN201153 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Feb (SUNA) — Deputy Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi says trading [Sudanese support for] the Eritrean cause for [Ethiopian support for the] John Garang movement was not officially proposed to Sudan. Such an exchange runs counter to Sudan's ethics, Al-Hindi said in a statement published by *Al-Siyasah* here today.

No one has asked Sudan to raise the Eritrean problem at the African foreign ministers conference, set to begin Sunday, he added. The Eritrean problem, he said, ranks as one of the Third World's serious issues and Sudan is seeking a solution satisfactory to all parties.

Al-Hindi urged Eritrean factions to forge a united front to bring their cause to the attention of the international community. While urging Eritrean factions to close ranks, the deputy prime minister added, Sudan does not invite others to use its territory as a launching pad or for interference in other countries' affairs. He emphasized Sudan's readiness to bring the parties to the Eritrean dispute together around the conference table, noting this has been Sudan's approach to solving its internal problems.

Armed Forces Spokesman: Rebel Camp 'Destroyed'

JN231543 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1422 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Feb (SUNA) A statement by an official spokesman of the People's Armed Forces today affirmed that the outlaw camp east of (Al-Bibur), destroyed by the Armed Forces Sunday [22 February] was one of the outlaws' most important camps as it constituted the right wing of the area where their main forces were concentrated in the Jabal Bumma area. The spokesman said this camp is considered the major supply area for all rebel forces.

The statement detailed the outlaws' losses in this camp as follows:

Two 106-mm antitank guns carried on 2 jeeps; 2 23-mm antiaircraft guns; 2 7-mm and 14-mm antitank guns; 2 82-mm mortars; 4 46-mm machine guns; 2 82-mm mortars [as received]; 4 SAM-7 antiaircraft missiles; 2 tractors in good condition; a radio set in good condition; 2 water cisterns in good condition; 38 Kalashnikov rifles; 20 antitank mines; (?100) highly explosive bombs; 200 highly explosive mortar shells; 80 RPG shells; 60 antitank shells; and 175,650 various bullets and shells for guns, machine guns, and rifles, in addition to large quantities of equipment, fuel, and food supplies.

The statement by the Armed Forces official spokesman on destroying the outlaw camp east of (Al-Bibur) pointed out that the number of outlaws killed in this battle was 6 officers and 125 soldiers, in addition to scores of wounded outlaws whose number is being counted. The statement said three Armed Forces men were martyred and eight were wounded, including a captain. The statement added that this battle is considered a crushing blow to the rebel movement as the movement's major supply force inside Sudanese territory was destroyed and its main lines of movement in the Upper Nile area were cut. The statement said while the People's Armed Forces General Command declares the results of this battle, it also congratulates the people on their Armed Forces' victories over the rebels. The General Command emphasizes that the people's soliders who protect the people's unity and security will escalate their crushing blows on the forces of rebellion and treason until peace and security are achieved in our beloved homeland.

Army Says 'Large Numbers' of Rebels Surrender

JN210955 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum, Feb. 21, (SUNA) — Large numbers of rebels recently gave up themselves to the People's Armed forces, the Army's spokesman said Friday.

The spokesman said remnants of the outlaws were retreating and beginning to give up themselves.

He said all the rebels who gave up were looked after by the People's Armed Forces which is in full control of the three southern regions.

The spokesman said the government troops were working with high morale thanks to the support of the country's political leadership and the Army's command.

Prime Minister Returns From Egypt 22 February

JN221847 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1754 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Feb (SUNA) — Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and the accompanying delegation arrived in Khartoum from Cairo at 1845 today following a 5-day visit to Egypt during which he signed a Brotherhood Charter between Sudan and Egypt with his Egyptian counterpart. Receiving him at Khartoum airport were Deputy Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, the ministers, and a number of senior state officials.

Al-Mahdi left Cairo at 1630 today. He was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, the deputies of the prime minister, the Egyptain ministers, the Sudanese ambassador to Egypt, the Egyptian ambassador to Sudan, and a number of Egyptian officials.

ETHIOPIA

Constitution Approved; Mengistu Details Results

EA212053 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighbouring Countries 1600 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] The Constitution, which will give more width and depth to the gains of the revolution, and which will be a reliable means in our future struggle for more victories, has been transformed from a draft to a legal document. It was prepared with the people's participation, enriched by their opinion, and approved by them. The Constitution became a legal document after 14,035,718 or 96 percent of registered voters cast their vote, and 81 percent accepted it. According to Article 33, Subarticle 1 of Decree 305 1986, by which the referendum commission was formed, approval of the draft constitution needed the approval of only 51 percent of those casting their votes.

The above figure, by which the Constitution was accepted and became a legal document, was disclosed by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, PMAC chairman, commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Constitution Referendum Commission, in his report to the Commission's Executive Committee meeting today.

In his report, the comrade secretary general said 14,570,011 voters above age 18 were registered at voting stations established in rural and urban areas, and in various sections of the revolutionary Army. He added that when compared to the 11,668,024 citizens who participated in the nationwide discussion on the Constitution, the new figure shows an increase of 26 percent. This clearly indicates that the democratic process of the discussion created a favorable situation for the referendum.

In his report, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam said around 1 percent of voters spoiled their voting cards, while 18 percent voted against the Constitution. However, since about 81 percent of eligible Ethiopians who voted accepted the draft constitution, he announced to the commission members, with great pleasure and revolutionary spirit, that the document has received the support of the majority of the Ethiopian people, and that the Constitution of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has been approved.

In his report, the comrade secretary general pointed out that this is a joyous occasion and another chapter of victory for all citizens because they are on the eve of self-rule through a constitution they prepared by direct participation and approved themselves.

Mengistu Receives Polish Interior Minister

EA232131 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, today received and held talks with Comrade Czeslaw Kiszczak, PZPR Central Committee Politburo member and minister of internal affairs.

At the ceremony, held in the Grand Palace today, Comrade Czeslaw Kiszczak said during his short visit to revolutionary Ethiopia, he has been able to properly understand the victories achieved in various spheres and the country's progress. He has also exchanged views with comrades.

The comrade secretary general, for his part, stressed that the Polish People's Republic [PPR] has helped us since the outbreak of our great revolution, particularly when our country was faced with the drought problem, and therefore we are indebted to the PPR. Our comrade revolutionary leader expressed revolutionary Ethiopia's wish to further strengthen existing friendship and relations with fraternal socialist countries like the PPR.

Comrade Fiseha Desta, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPE Central Committee; Comrade Ashagre Yigletu, member and secretary of the WPE Central Committee; and Comrade Andrzej Konopacki, Polish ambassador to revolutionary Ethiopia, attended the ceremony.

Official Talks With Egypt Open in Addis Ababa

NC211327 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Addis Ababa, 21 Feb (MENA) — Official Egyptian-Ethiopian talks opened at the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry today. The Egyptian delegation is led by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Ethiopian delegation by Berhanu Bayeh, minister of foreign affairs.

During the session, the conferees reviewed progress made in various fields of Egyptian-Ethiopian cooperation since President Mubarak's meeting with Ethiopian President Mengistu last July, and implementation of the points of agreement reached during the Ethiopian foreign minister's visit to Cairo in January.

In a statement after the talks, Dr Butrus Ghali described his meeting with his Ethiopian counterpart as fruitful, adding that it reflected the two countries' political will to improve their bilateral relations. Dr Ghali said these relations are excellent and age-old, adding that their prospects are promising. He continued: Consultation and dialogue between Cairo and Addis Ababa serve peace and stability in the region and Africa in general.

ETU Delegation Leaves for Moscow Congress

EA202040 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1800 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Summary] A two-man delegation led by Tadesse Tamrat, member of the WPE Central Committee and chairman of the Ethiopian Trade Union [ETU], left for Moscow today to attend the 18th All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU] Congress. The ETU will express its support for the AUCCTU at the Congress.

SOMALIA

KNA: 2 Air Force Officers Fly Plane to Kenya

EA241128 Nairobi KNA in English 1000 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] Nairobi, 24 February, (KNA) — Two Somali Air Force officers flew into Kenya Sunday 22nd February, 1987, in the morning, in a two-seater Air Force plane and landed at Malindi Airport.

The crew is believed to have left Somalia from Kismayu, a Somali coastal town in southern Somalia.

The two crew men were armed with pistols which they surrendered to Kenyan security personnel immediately, together with their personal effects. The Somali officers, believed to be lieutenants, are still being interrogated by Kenyan security personnel in Malindi.

President Barre Returns From Italy 21 February

EA211648 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] SDR President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and his delegation returned home this morning at the conclusion of their visit to Italy. Briefing the press at the Presidency, the Somali president told newsmen that his meeting with Italian leaders centered on the interests of the two countries and international issues. He said both countries shared the same views.

SDR President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre called on the Somali people to strive toward the achievement of their aspirations. He said the defense of the motherland comes first, followed by increased production, and cooperation in the realization of progress and prosperity. Challe Siad added that it is indispensible to guard against issues that could bring about disunity, and called for unity in serving the country and people. Challe Siad and his delegation were welcomed warmly at the international airport by party organs, functionaries, and government officials.

Radio Halgan: Barre Orders Harassment of North

EA232207 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Reports from the northern regions of the country say that the tyrannical regime of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre is busy with campaigns to harm innocent civilians living in these regions. The regime has commanded its obedient forces to harass civilians in these settlements and to destroy buildings and reservoirs, including underground ones. The regime has also commanded them to loot and seize private property belonging to Somalis. This is in retaliation for movements of SNM [Somali National Movement] fighters in these settlements. A Radio Halgan spokesman warned civilians in these areas to be vigilant about the regime's vicious plans and to prepare themselves to defend their rights and honor. The SNM is ready to give them moral and material support.

TANZANIA

Soviet Delegation Ends Visit, Issues Statement

EA221809 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The USSR has called on Tanzania to consistently face up to all the problems facing the country to achieve its major goals of building socialism, fighting poverty and ignorance, and eradicating colonialism. The USSR said whenever possible, it will cooperate with Tanzania in solving the various problems that are an obstacle to attaining these goals.

A statement issued today by the CPSU delegation shortly prior to its departure for home, following a week-long visit to the country, said that wherever the delegation went in the regions, it was impressed by the spirit of Tanzanians in building a socialist ideology under the firm leadership of Chama Cha Mapinduzi [CCM] Chairman Mwalimu Nyerere.

Yuriy Kochetkov, leader of the delegation, which came to the country at the invitation of the CCM, told our correspondent that his delegation saw great opportunities for promoting relations between the two states in the cultural sector and in the improvement of public corporations. Mr Kochetkov said the CPSU had extended an invitation to a CCM delegation to visit the USSR later, when it could study the Soviet experience regarding popular participation and ways of improving the people's welfare.

UGANDA

Charges Dropped Against Former Vice President

EA241200 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] The director of public prosecutions, Mr Kabasi, has withdrawn the charge against eight people, including the former vice-president, Paulo Muwanga.

Others cleared of the charge in the chief magistrate court in Kampala due to lack of sufficient evidence are Mr Henry Bwambale, (Francis Wazhuarahi Buyenje), Andrew Rutakome Kayeria, (David Rwanda), Israel Mayengo, Commander Muchwa and (John Serunkuma). The remaining accused, Evaristo Nyanzi, Dr Sharles (Ruwanga), (Andrew Sekyuyema), (Joseph Mukas Moberu), Rajab Kasozi, (Joseph Kabogo), Dennis Ssebuggwawo, Saabiti Matovu and Mohamed Kanyike, are to be committed for trial before the high court for treason and other related charges. In his submission to the court, the director of public prosecutions, Mr Kabasi, discussed accusations by the defense that the inquiries in the case have not been completed in time as unjustified: In my experience over 12 years, particularly in this field of practice both here and elsewhere, I have not at the best of time seen many criminal cases taking off for trial on average in less than eight months from the time of the commencement of inquiry.

CAMEROON

AFP: President Biya Views Chadian Situation

AB201522 Paris AFP in French 1200 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Yaounde, 20 Feb (AFP) — The conflicting situation prevailing in Chad today is the result of foreign intervention. Cameroon therefore demands a halt to this foreign intervention, Cameroonian President Paul Biya asserted on Thursday evening [19 February] in Yaounde, in an interview on Cameroonian television. Mr Biya pointed out, however, that in referring to the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad, a distinction must be made between the withdrawal of foreign troops that were invited to Chad by the legal government, and all others.

Chad is a sovereign country, whose territorial integrity must be preserved, and a sovereign government, Mr Biya stated, is free to ask another sovereign nation for help. This applies to the presence of French troops in Chad. They were invited there by the legal government and are free to leave once that government considers their presence is no longer necessary.

We believe, President Biya said, that national reconciliation in Chad, in the interest of national unity which was hitherto jeopardized by quareling among political and military groups, has almost been achieved today by the legal government led by Hissein Habre (...), a legal and legitimate government since it is recognized by the United Nations, the OAU, and the international community.

In order to achieve a long-lasting solution to the Chadian conflict, troops that were not called in by the legal Chadian Government, but are currently operating there, must be withdrawn from Chad, the Cameroonian president insisted.

Cameroon, which is already playing a humanitarian role by granting shelter (...) to refugees (Chadian), is ready to contribute towards the search for a peaceful solution to this painful conflict. We are referring in particular to the OAU ad hoc committee created in 1977 and chaired by Gabon. (...) We think the time is ripe to convene a meeting of that committee to settle the problem. Cameroon is ready to give her utmost in the search for a final solution to this painful problem in any other framework, or even here in Cameroon if the parties concerned find it useful(...)

CHAD

Further Reportage on Fighting With Libyan Troops

FANT Reports MiG Downed

AB201924 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Communique No 34 issued by the High Command of the Chadian National Armed Forces in Ndjamena on 20 February]

[Text] Owing to the defeat suffered by the Libyan annexationist troops at the hands of our valiant Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] on the battlefield, the Libyan slavedrivers have intensified their bombing raids on all the liberated zones (?both day and night).

As announced earlier, the Libyan Air Force resumed its blind and particularly intensive bombings on the morning of 19 February on the town of Zouar. During the bombings that resumed this afternoon, a MiG fighter plane of the Libyan Air Force was shot down at Zouar at 1545 by FANT antiaircraft defense.

The Libyan Air Force continues blind air raids on positions held by FANT because the latter is determined to teach them painful and unforgettable lesson. A word to the wise is sufficient!

Communique 35 Reports Clashes

AB211926 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Communique No 35 issued by the Chadian National Armed Forces High Command in Ndjamena on 21 February]

[Text] Communique No 35 of the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] High Command: 20 February was a dark day for the Libyan invaders in the Tibesti region. Violent clashes occurred between soldiering (?Al-Qadhdhafi) forces and the valiant FANT forces at Wour in the (?Aozou) region. The Libyan enemy received the lesson it deserves. Here is the outcome of that battle:

On the enemy side: 23 Libyans killed; (?armored cars) and (?vehicles) destroyed; three troop carriers destroyed; Toyota-radio [as heard] destroyed.

Furthermore, on the same day, an enemy attack on Zouar was repulsed by our Armed Forces. The enemy, in its flight, abandoned 18 dead bodies. The FANT will reserve even darker days for the Tripoli soldiers if they continue their illegal occupation of our sacred soil.

GUNT Battle Claims Denied

AB231720 Paris AFP in French 1436 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 23 Feb (AFP) — Seven Libyan soldiers were killed on Sunday [22 February] by the regular Chadian forces at Yebbi Souma, south of Aouzou, a northern Chadian territory claimed by Libya, which has been occupying it since 1973.

The seven soldiers killed and the four others wounded fell in an ambush laid by the Chadian Government troops, according to a communique issued by the High Command of the Chadian Armed Forces. Two Mercedes trucks loaded with ammunition and two Army Toyota trucks were destroyed during the clashes, while there were no losses on the Chadian side, the same source reported.

On Friday [20 February], Chadian Government forces announced that 23 Libyan soldiers were killed in the Aouzou area, and 18 others in Zouar. Furthermore, the Chadian authorities described as ridiculous reports from the new GUNT saying that this armed unit attacked three positions held by President

Hissein Habre's troops in the Oum Chalouba-Kalait area, just south of the 16th Parallel.

Commenting on these attacks reported on Sunday by the Libyan news agency JANA, which did not give any date, Mr Moumine Togoi Hamidi, the Chadian Government spokesman, simply stated that ridicule does not hurt, and the reports are not worthy of a denial.

11 Libyan Casualties in Ambush

AB231920 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Communique No 36 issued by the High Command of the Chadian National Armed Forces on 23 February in Ndjamena]

[Text] Communique No 36 issued by the High Command of the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT]. [Words indistinct] is becoming unbearable for the Libyan annexationist troops. After their debacle at Zouar and Wour last week, the Libyan soldiery, now helpless, fell yesterday in an ambush laid by the FANT at Yebbi Souma in the south of Aozou. In the ambush, seven Libyans were killed while four others were injured.

[Words indistinct] on the enemy side: Two Mercedes trucks loaded with ammunition were destroyed, along with a Toyota 14.5 and a ground-to-ground Toyota. [as heard]

Forward freedom fighters! The enemy is at bay. Victory is certain.

Bardai Reports ANL Attack

AB231159 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1130 GMT 23 Feb 87

["Press communique issued by the GUNT" on 22 February 1987 in Bardai — recorded]

[Text] GUNT press communique: The ANL [National Liberation Army] forces have attacked a FAN [Northern Armed Forces] patrol between Kalait and Oum Chalouba [below the 16th Parallel]. This attack left several soldiers dead and wounded within the ranks of the FAN patrol. Several pieces of war equipment, transport vehicles, and weapons used by this enemy patrol were destroyed. Also, the GUNT forces pursued the enemy forces throughout the area, thus causing panic within the ranks of the FAN troops. The latter are falling back in disorder. Issued in Bardai on 22 February 1987.

[Signed] The minister of information, Telero Guidingar

Reports on Additional Dispatch of French Forces

France Denies Sending 1,500

LD201530 Paris Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] The French forces in Chad are currently being reinforced with engineers units, in all one or two companies comprising some 300 men. This has just been indicated by the French Defense Ministry, which also denied information according to which 1,500 men were reportedly sent to Chad in the past few days. This being said, the engineers will work on site to set up positions, runways or barracks for our men, who number some 2,000. This is the "Sparrow Hawk" military system, whose mission is to make eastern Chad impregnable.

Forces Strengthening 'Daily'

AB202202 Paris AFP in French 2017 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Excerpts] Biltine (Chad), 20 Feb (AFP) — A few journalists noticed on Thursday [19 February] and Friday that the strengthening of the French military apparatus in Chad is continuing daily. Nearly 600 soldiers, armored cars, and antiaircraft defense equipment have already been deployed in the east, at Biltine and Abeche. More are expected in the days to come, and the total size of the "Sparrow Hawk" operation is expected to vary constantly, in relation to the gravity and imminence of Libyan threats on Chad, according to local officers including French Group Captain Yves Joseph. If necessary, they added, all French soldiers stationed in the CAR, to the south of Chad, might be deployed within the framework of Operation "Sparrow Hawk." [passage omitted]

On Friday, half a company (103 men) of the 21st Marine Infantry regiment of Frejus, southeastern France, strengthened by antiaircraft defense equipment comprising portable missiles and six 20 mm double-barrelled guns, was sent to Biltine, 130 km south of the 16th Parallel. In addition, 300 to 350 men of the same regiment were sent to Abeche, 92 km further south, as well as a squadron of the infantry regiment and tanks of the Vannes (western France) marines equipped with 12 Sagaie armored cars. Also, antiaircraft devices capable of supplying two batteries of Crotale surface-to-air missiles and two air surveillance radars as well as a company of the sixth foreign regiment of engineers of Nimes, southeastern France, have also been sent there.

All these men sent to eastern Chad, including Kalait, are henceforth under the command of the commander of the 21st Marine Infantry Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Rey, whose brother is a Jesuit priest in Ndjamena.

JANA Reports 'Special Units'

LD202015 Tripoli JANA in English 1807 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Paris, al Nowar 20, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Sources of the French War Ministry asserted today that it had backed the occupying French forces in Ndjamena by special military units.

These sources indicated that France will repair and re-operate the runways and camps within the framework of confirming the French occupation of Ndjamena.

The French news agency quoted sources in the French War Ministry confirming that the concentration of French reinforcements arriving in Ndjamena are aimed at wholly occupying Chad and to hit at the Chadian people which support the Chadian Government of National Unity.

Radio Bardai on Kamougue Assassination Attempt

AB231220 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1132 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] On the enemy side, under the French-U.S. domination, let us recall this information: Colonel Wadal Abdelkader Kamougue, who had joined the Ndjamena regime, survived an assassination attempt on (?18) February 1987 in Ndjamena. He has been taken to the [word indistinct] camp where he is under the French Army's protection.

This assassination attempt on the former GUNT vice president does not surprise us because Kamougue's decision to join the Ndjamena regime was made under the pressure of the French mentors and African reactionary states. In fact, his joining the Ndjamena group was a highly risky act of treason. Kamougue went back to Ndjamena without honor to live amidst his various and most irresistible rivals. The protection and the guarantee of the French occupation troops are not enough to avoid assassination attempts among these agents.

Opposition Group Asks Acheikh To Step Down

AB231705 Paris AFP in French 1526 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Paris, 23 Feb [AFP] — The Chadian Socialist Union (UST), whose coordinator is Abderaman Koulamallah, stated in Paris today that it had asked new GUNT President Acheikh Ibn Oumar to step down to enable Goukouni Oueddei to mobilize Chadian opposition forces and bring them together.

A communique given to AFP stated the UST appeals to the Chadian opposition to come together to begin the national reconciliation process which, according to the union, is the only way to reduce the risk of general war and end foreign interference in the Chadian conflict.

According to the communique, the UST has contacted Acheikh Ibn Oumar and asked him to step down so that Goukouni Oueddei can form a new opposition group and open genuine discussions with the Chadian authorities to bring peace to Chad.

Finally, the UST feels the increasing reinforcement of Libyan forces and the redeployment of the French Sparrowhawk air defense system make direct clashes between France and Libya inevitable in northern Chad.

National Unity Government Leader Interviewed

LD211601 Tripoli JANA in English 1423 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al Nowar 21, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The president of the legal Chadian Government of National Unity declared that the forces of the army of national liberation had intensified in recent weeks their fierce attacks against the puppet forces of the mutinous gangs in Ndjamena inflicting heavy human and material losses on them.

In an interview with the T.V. programme "Good Morning, the First Jamahiriyah", the president pointed out that successful operations and successive victories scored by the forces of the Government of National Unity right inside the Chadian territory and even behind the lines of the puppet forces of the mutinous clique of Ndjamena show that the military initiative is in the hands of the forces of the Government of National Unity.

The president of the Chadian Government of National Unity refuted the campaign of lies by the Western media regarding the situation in Chad. He said the Western news media are conducting a campaign of lies, distortion of facts and blackout of the truth in a bid to cover up and distort events in Chad.

The president asserted that the Chadian people oppose the puppet regime in Ndjamena and resist it as there are armed opposition movements and armed mutiny within the ranks of agent Habre and that hundreds of thousands of Chadians are fleeing the country for neighbouring countries.

The president asserted that the forces of the National government captured, few days ago, massive quantities of weapons and military equipment coming from America, France and Egypt. [sentence as recieved] He said this shows that the Egyptian regime is involved with the puppet regime in Ndjamena and that it became the third source for military supply to the mutinous clique of Ndjamena after France and the American Administration.

The president pointed out that the blatant American French intervention in Chad comes within the context of attempts by colonial forces to control Africa and rob it of its resources preventing this continent from enjoying freedom security and peace and hindering the establishment of people's progressive and revolutionary regime in Chad which may eliminate colonial interests.

BENIN

Soviet Youth Delegation Ends Visit, Departs

AB222156 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Good-bye, and see you next year, maybe! The Soviet youth group, on a journey of friendship and solidarity, left Cotonou yesterday for Lome. The cruise, organized by the Komsomol, is continuing its course to other friendly countries. The aim is to strengthen relations between Soviet youths and those of friendly countries. On leaving our country yesterday, after spending 5 days with the OJRB [Benin Revolutionary Youth Organization], the leader of the Soviet delegation, Comrade (Yedgenu Samotesol), said he was very satisfied with their stay, and admitted having learned a lot about the Beninese people, their revolutionary youth, and their political, economic, and sociopolitical potential.

[Begin (Samotesol) recording in Russian fading into French translation] The days we have spent in Benin have been filled with generous friendly relations and various meetings with the youth of the country. Today I thank all the youth of Benin very much for the warm welcome. We visited the exhibition, which enabled us to learn about the history of the development of the youth movement. We also greatly appreciated the works made by the young Beninese artisans. We can say that this exhibition has shown us that the youth and the youth movement are seeking new ways to achieve their ideals. We can say that this exhibition has helped us to discover your country, and to get to know you better. [end recording]

BURKINA FASO

Sankara Declares Assets to Anticorruption Group

AB201321 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Convened by its chairman, Comrade (Henri Nouran), the first sitting of the People's Commission for the Prevention of Corruption [CPPC] was held today in the hall of the former Palace of Justice in Ouagadougou. Of the 15 comrades invited to declare their assets before the commision, 2 were absent: Comrade Leandre Bassolet, minister of external relations and cooperation, and Jean Coulibaly, administrative officer at the headquarters of the West African Economic Community.

The first to appear before the commission was the head of state, Comrade Captain Thomas Sankara. John Kassambedo has the details.

[Kassambedo] Capt Thomas Sankara, who is linked to his wife by the joint estate marriage, read out the list of his assets before the commission in her presence. The assets are as follows: First, his personal estate includes one refrigerator and one freezer — both broken down — one stove, two TV sets, one video tape recorder, three radios, a set of parlor furniture, one bookstand, and three guitars. As for his real estate, Capt Thomas Sankara mentioned a villa located in Ward 2 in Ouagadougou, a non-developed plot of land in Ward 17 also in Ouagadougou, and another non-developed plot of land in his home village. Other belongings include a Mitsubishi car bought in 1978, two racing bicycles, one lady's bicycle, and one children's bicycle.

Capt Thomas Sankara also informed the CPPC about the amount of money in his bank accounts and those of his wife, as well as about their monthly salaries. This enabled the members to know that the president of Burkina Faso has at the International Bank for Industry, Commerce, and Agriculture of Burkina [BICIAB] an account of 353,665 CFA francs as of today, a saving account at the National Saving Bank standing at 69,792 CFA francs. Also at the BICIAB, his wife has one saving account and one current account. In the first account, she has 43,037 CFA francs, while in the second one she has 63,646 CFA francs. There is no mention of share or negotiable instruments for either.

Before concluding, Capt Thomas Sankara also mentioned the valuable donations, he and his wife had received from high-ranking personalities. The president of Burkina Faso received the sum of 850 million CFA francs and vehicles from those open-handed donors. This sizable sum of money, Capt Thomas Sankara pointed out, has been deposited with the National Budget Service or state institutions that can prove it. The vehicles have been sent to the National Administrative Vehicle Service.

The wife of the president of Burkina Faso received from the same donors the sum of 20 million CFA francs, a part of which was sent to the Revolutionary Solidarity Fund, while the other went to the association of the blind and visually impaired people at the Nontaba village.

Capt Thomas Sankara earns a salary of 138,736 CFA, francs while his wife earns 192,690 CFA francs.

After the president of Burkina Faso, the members of the first CPPC successively listened to Comrade Pierre Ouedraogo, the National Secretary of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution; Budget Minister Adele Ouedraogo; Adama Pierre Traore of the Burkinabe Precious Metals Board; Bintou Sanogo, director of Air Burkina Company; (Dere Augustin Sonda), managing director of the BICIAB; Adama Loungue, [word indistinct]. Other comrades who appeared before the commission to declare their assets were Michel Monvel Dah, Anne Konate, and Harouna Kouela — Burkina Faso's ambassadors to China, Mali, and Saudi Arabia, respectively, as well as (Oum Felix Compaore), commander of the National Gendarmerie. [passage omitted]

CAPE VERDE

President Pereira Interviewed on Regional Issues

PM231120 Casablanca LE MATIN DU SAHARA in French
13 Feb 87 p 3

[Interview with Cape Verde President Aristides Pereira by Farida Moha; date, place not given]

[Text] *Le Matin du Sahara*: Mr President, during your friendly working visit you have signed a number of economic, cultural, and technological cooperation agreements with Morocco.

Following a 26-year gap in our relations, what is the underlying significance of your visit to Morocco?

President Aristides Pereira: After a 26-year gap, we are now setting the seal on a reunion that inspires hope because it specifically signifies a strengthening of our relations. We have done the groundwork for this reunion by signing accords that provide a legal framework. Our ambassador to Morocco, who will be based in Lisbon, will present his credentials, and we will soon be signing a commercial agreement in Praia. During our visit we have not discussed all possible areas of cooperation. Apart from tourism — a sector in which Morocco is very experienced — we will have other areas to define and to promote together.

Some people may mistakenly believe that our visit to Morocco is linked to a specific request.

Morocco does not need to use unethical means to assert its position, and we believe that our country is not for sale. What we want is a normalization of our relations with fraternal countries such as Morocco.

When our armed struggle ended in 1975 we had to face huge difficulties: The country was battered, and we lacked economic experience. Thanks to our people's confidence, courage, and tenacity, we are now more confident. In a decade we have succeeded in visibly changing the standard of living. Life expectancy was under 45, and now it is 61; the death rate has fallen considerably. We are more confident now.

We honestly believe that despite political and other difficulties, Cape Verde and Morocco have many similarities. At the start of our armed struggle against Portuguese colonialism, Morocco was the only African country that — together with the socialist countries — gave us concrete help by supplying us with weapons and training. When we were here 26 years ago we felt at home. Such things are not forgotten, despite all the political vicissitudes.

Le Matin du Sahara: The South African problem is undoubtedly that which causes most concern to your country, which has maintained very close relations with the Portuguese-speaking Angola and Mozambique and with the Frontline countries. The ANC has just celebrated its 75th anniversary; the past 25 years having been spent in armed struggle. Oliver Tambo has been received by the British foreign secretary and recently by American Secretary of State George Shultz. How do you assess this evolution?

President Aristides Pereira: In this complex conflict my position is as follows: Let us start at the beginning, that is, by giving independence to Namibia, which has been colonized since 1915, first by the Union of South Africa, and since 1920 under mandate. The United Nations withdrew this mandate in October 1966, establishing a supervisory system. Independence was scheduled for 1978, had it not been for South Africa's radicalization. The situation in Namibia could not be clearer: Let us begin with this issue.

Le Matin du Sahara: OAU Chairman Denis Sassou Nguesso is currently visiting Paris, London, and Madrid. His statements in Paris about the total withdrawal of foreign troops, both Libyan and French, were apparently not appreciated by the French Government. What is your position regarding this conflict?

President Aristides Pereira: It is the Chadians that must resolve this problem. We have recently witnessed a growing awareness, reflected in the rallying together of several groups — the latest being Abdelkader Kamougue's — to support President Habre. We are delighted at this rallying together of Chadians. The Chadians must be allowed to resolve their own problems, and in this respect we endorse the OAU's decisions envisaging the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad. I repeat that we are very pleased to observe that there is now a tide of patriotism and unification among the forces in Chad. We consider this crucial to the settlement of the conflict.

Le Matin du Sahara: The conflict in Northwest Africa, in the Sahara, affects the entire region. What is your analysis of this issue?

President Aristides Pereira: This issue now lies within the scope of the United Nations. We Africans have confidence in UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar. What we Africans can say is that it is necessary to continue so that, one way or another, we can find as soon as possible a solution to the conflict, which affects as all to some extent. We, too, are near to this region.

Le Matin du Sahara: Do you consider a referendum a fair solution?

President Aristides Pereira: Definitely. The secretary general is consulting the sides concerned, and I personally believe that common sense will eventually prevail in this conflict.

THE GAMBIA

BBC Interviews President Jawara on Party Clashes

AB192012 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 19 Feb 87

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Almost immediately after The Gambia's official election campaign got under way earlier this month, there were reports of violence in various parts of the country, particularly at Kerewan, across the Gambia river from Banjul. The implication was that supporters of President Sir Dawda Jawara's ruling party, the PPP, [People's Progressive Party], were responsible for attacks on members of the opposition parties, such as the NCP [National Convention Party] and the newly formed GPP [The Gambia People's Party] on nomination day. But Sir Dawda has heard different views. In Banjul, Elizabeth Blount asked him what he said had happened.

[Begin recording][Jawara] I have heard reports of these incidents in Kerewan, but I must say that when I investigated, I found that the versions that came over to BBC, I am sorry to to say, were a bit slanted, and they must have come from an interested party who wanted to smear the PPP and the PPP government. Because the version I heard — in fact I have a recording of it here — since then, I've got eyewitness accounts and I understand what happened was that one (Lang Souare), who is a known PPP supporter, was in this compound slaughtering an animal to entertain (Sheku Soboli) and the other PPP people who came for the nomination. A lorry-load of NCP stopped near the compound and beat him up — went in and beat him up; then hewent to report to the police, and after the NCP candidates were nominated, they were going past the same compound and they stopped and the police went there, because they anticipated that there would be trouble and there was stone-throwing. In fact when they got there, they had reports that one of the NCP chaps was carrying a revolver; in fact he had fired a shot. So they asked him to surrender his gun; he said he had none; he was searched; it was found on him; and they found one brand cartridge and two live ammunitions in the revolver. So he was arrested. Another NCP chap was arrested because he had marijuana with him. Then I inquired whether, in fact, there were injured people — because I heard over the BBC that there were seven NCP injured, and one of the them was actually beaten up by a policeman. It was so serious that I had to enquire; but I understand this was absolutely untrue.

[Blount] Two of your own ministers were present, I think. Did they report to you?

[Jawara] No, no, I didn't hear from the ministers. I wanted to get an objective report. In fact, I believe they were still not back yet. So there was no report. I didn't hear it from the ministers. I heard it from an eyewitness who... [Jawara changes thought] a few eyewitnesses who I believe to be quite trustworthy. But I believe you were on the scene and maybe...

[Blount, interrupting] We saw people; we saw people who had minor injuries, who we [words indistinct].

[Jawara] [Words indistinct] such stone throwing, and of course, what you hear will very much depend on who you interview. Yes, I understand one (?member) of the youth, who is known, who was an [name indistinct] Gambia employee, who is a known NCP supporter, and if anyone asked these people, they would give you a version that really you have to verify before you put on the air. [end recording]

GHANA

British Commissioner, Annan Discuss Relations

AB192227 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Excerpts] A member of the PNDC and chairman of the National Commission for Democracy, Mr Justice Annan, has declared that the government is committed to its announced program for elections at the district, town, and village levels, because they form the bedrock of its program of democracy. [passage omitted]

Mr Justice Annan was speaking in Accra when the British High Commissioner to Ghana Arthur Whyte and his deputy called on him today. [passage omitted]

On the economy, Mr Justice Annan reviewed with the high commissioner areas where Britain offers assistance, especially in the implementation of Ghana's medium-term program. The PNDC member stressed the commitment of the PNDC to take the necessary harsh measures to maintain the momentum of the economic recovery program. He hoped the forthcoming donors' conference in Paris on Ghana would see more assistance from Britain and other donor nations. He called on the developed countries to assist in promoting stability in the prices of primary products on the world market. [passage omitted]

Mr Whyte spoke of his country's concern about increasing debt of developing countries and pledged his country's assistance to these countries. He said Britain is still implementing its 1986 aid program for Ghana and would make known its program for 1987 at this year's donors' conference.

On Britain's new immigration requirements, Mr Whyte said the measure is to check illegal immigrants, especially those who travel to the country without proper documents.

IVORY COAST

AFP Interviews Houphouet-Boigny on Chad

AB202000 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French
20 Feb 87 pp 27-29

[Interview with President Felix Houphouet-Boigny by AFP regional representative Bernard Aubert on the crisis in Chad — date and place not given]

[Text] [Aubert] Mr President, since your news conference of 14 October 1985, Ivory Coast has not made its stand known on the Chadian crisis, which has developed into a Chad-Libya conflict since national reconciliation began in Chad. This long silence, by a man who has always been preoccupied by peace and reconciliation on the African Continent, is indeed surprising. Is the wiseman of Africa today ready to break the silence and make his stand known on this delicate issue, particularly in view of the rather contradictory statements made recently by Presidents Francois Mitterrand and Sassou-Nguesso?

[Houphouet-Boigny] I agree entirely with the statement made by President Mitterrand on 9 February 1987 on Chad. This statement, which certainly expresses the views of the entire French Government, has come at the right time and will — at least I hope — dissipate a number of misunderstandings, contradictions, and confusions.

I think I am familiar enough with the Chadian problem. Chad was a member of the African Democratic Rally, our great movement for the struggle for emancipation, which led the majority of Francophone African states to independence. Unfortunately, Chad did not enjoy its independence for very long, since it was torn apart by the fratricidal war by its own sons in their search for power and not for independence, as independence had already been acquired. Chad was therefore plunged into civil war for years, and it was this civil war that made it possible for President [title as published] al-Qadhdhafi to annex the Aozou Strip belonging to Chad without any resistance. This annexation took place 13 years after Chad had attained independence and

10 years after the creation of the OAU, of which Libya is one of the founding members.

One of the major principles of the OAU — one of the most noble ones — is the respect of borders inherited from the colonial era. Al-Qadhdhafi did not stop at this annexation. We were among the first people to express concern about Al-Qadhdhafi's expansionist aims in regard to Chad. No one believed us. Events have, nevertheless, proven us right.

Faced with this invasion by Al-Qadhdhafi's troops, Hissein Habre, leader of the legitimate Government of Chad, a free and sovereign country that is recognized by all international bodies including the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement, appealed for help from France. I am pleased that France replied favorably to that appeal for help. Of course, in the meantime, the defense agreements between the two countries have been terminated, but more solid ties than those remain. These are the historical ties between France and Chad, and between France and each country it colonized.

Owing to France's intervention, Al-Qadhdhafi's invasion was stopped at the 16th Parallel. But France did not stop at that military action. It began negotiations with Al-Qadhdhafi and his government to obtain a peaceful settlement of the problem.

It is in this light that External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson met Libyan Minister al-Turayki in Tripoli on 17 September 1984. Their discussions were crowned by a communique that recommended that the two countries simultaneously withdraw their troops, as well as their weapons and equipment. A few weeks later, on 15 November, President Mitterrand met with Al-Qadhdhafi on the Island of Crete.

Of course, there was no communique at the end of their discussions, but there was enough evidence to prove that Al-Qadhdhafi assured President Mitterrand of his willingness to respect the 17 September Tripoli agreement. But unfortunately, while France agreed and immediately executed the terms of the agreement by withdrawing all its troops from Chad, Libya remained there.

Following Libya's refusal to leave northern Chad, the sign of a new invasion, Hissein Habre again appealed to France, which responded favorably. President Mitterrand's statement came at the right time to dissipate the misunderstandings and confusion.

On one side, there are the French troops who were called in by Hissein Habre to help him because his country is being threatened by Libyan invasion. One cannot cover the sun with one's hand. There is one obvious reality. On one side, we have friends who have come to help and who are ready to return home immediately. Everybody is convinced of this. If the danger of Libya's annexation of Chad disappears, within an hour — what am I saying, the next second — France will leave. Everybody, including Al-Qadhdhafi himself, is convinced of this.

But on the contrary, on the other side, we have the Libyan troops. We, who believe in the use of dialogue and negotiation for the peaceful settlement of all disputes, can only be glad to warmly applaud all initiatives, either personal, national, or international, which can force Al-Qadhdhafi, for once, to keep his word and withdraw peacefully from Chad so that peace, which this country so desperately needs, can be restored.

Chad is very far behind. An immense task of reconstruction is awaiting its sons once they are finally reconciled. Al-Qadhdhafi should give them the opportunity to work on this exalted task. This is our most cherished hope. We want peace in Chad.

Friendship thrives on truth. I hope that Al-Qadhdhafi's friends — and he has friends — will tell him that he will do the greatest service to the OAU and to Africa if he can withdraw voluntarily and peacefully from the territory of a member country of our organization. The OAU, I repeat, regards as sacred the scrupulous respect of the borders inherited from the colonial masters. Nobody can accept the occupation of an OAU member-country. It is a good thing, and it is hoped that Al-Qadhdhafi will understand this. The sooner the better for those of us who aspire to peace, not only for Chad but for the whole of Africa, whose development is retarded. Chad needs peace. The sacrifices made up to now attest to this desire for peace. But it also needs stability, which constitutes a prerequisite for development. This is possible. Al-Qadhdhafi will only have to express the willingness. Al-Qadhdhafi's true friends will only have to impress upon him the importance of giving Africa this opportunity for peace.

[Aubert] Are you thinking of taking a peace initiative with regard to Chad, for example by organizing a reconciliation summit in Yamoussoukro?

[Houphouet-Boigny] When I am solicited by friends to undertake an action and I have the feeling that the action will lead to some results, I do not shirk my responsibilities. I have never stopped saying this, and I repeat it again today: I am not looking for prestige. I am not after any personal interest. My only concern is for peace. But I do not think that in the present state of things, I can, at Yamoussoukro, contribute to the restoration of peace in Chad. Some people have accepted some responsibilities; if they ask for advise from me, being, as I am, the doyen, I will do everything possible to advise them. To me, the fruit is not ripe.

[Aubert] Mr President, your vocation for peace and reconciliation through dialogue and negotiation is well known. You seem today to be expressing some reservation about taking such an initiative. Could you explain your position on this question?

[Houphouet-Boigny] You are very right in asking me this question. You give me an opportunity to allow my thoughts to become better understood. If I were called upon to add my modest contribution to the search for peace, I would not shy away insofar as I think that my intervention could lead to peace. I am a modest doctor, and I know that when there is a thorn in a wound, as long as the pain of extracting the thorn has not been accepted, the wound cannot be healed, no matter how competent the doctor may be or how effective the medication. Now, there is a big thorn in Chad: That is the presence of Libya.

A great reconciliation effort has been made among the Chadians. I have received members of the Chadian opposition on several occasions, both in Yamoussoukro and Abidjan. I sent them to my friend and brother President Bongo, who has done a wonderful job acting as an intermediary among all Chadian brothers of the opposition who had returned from the Libyan front. It is because of these brothers of the opposition that we know, today, all that is happening in the part of Chad occupied by Libya.

Moreover, we can apply the adage which says every cloud has a silver lining, when we consider the present behavior of the former brothers of the opposition. Those whom we have seen, those who have achieved understanding and reconciliation with their brother President Hissein Habre, have realized the disaster, both political and economic, that their fratricidal war has brought onto their country. I am sure that through these brotherly reunions, they will pull themselves together to fulfill the expectations of their country, which has been torn apart by so many years of war and which is aspiring to peace and stability, in order to make up for the great retardation of its development.

The myth of the GUNT has definitively been destroyed today. There is only one Libyan force fighting against the Chadian Armed Forces. As long as Al-Qadhdhafi retains with him — and that is still the case — a few rare supporters of the stillborn renowned GUNT, he will always use it as pretext to try to obtain the partition of Chad, something we firmly refuse. It therefore seems that preliminary work must be done, by us, the staunch supporters of dialogue, to convince the Libyan president to undertake a total withdrawal of his troops, within his borders inherited from colonization. After this, the total reconciliation of the Chadian brothers could take place in their own country, and there would be no need to meet in Yamoussoukro, or elsewhere. I repeat: It seems to me that the fruit is not yet ripe.

We Africans have approaches to peace that are different from those of our Western friends: our contacts are discreet and pursued in silence. It is when we are sure reconciliation can be secured that we invite the opposing parties to meet. We are not tempted by the numerous meetings organized all over the world for the establishment of peace, which the developed world has grown accustomed to; these meetings never result in any concrete action, because they are undermined by a big thorn — distrust — that is never taken out of the wound.

I keep on talking in Ivory Coast about the lesson of the panther: Ao long as it has not taken hold of its prey, it cannot be heard. This an important lesson of caution and safety. Accordingly, I will receive in Yamoussokro, Abidjan, or somewhere else, opponents who solicit my help only when, after my patient and meticulous work, I can expect positive chances for reconciliation.

Until now, we have been able, fortunately, to successfully carry out the necessary proceedings for the settlement of some conflicts we were charged with solving. We must keep up the good work. But we must be aware of something: one can validly preach peace and justice to others only when one has achieved them at home. It is for this exalted but difficult task of a permanent search for peace that I continue to invite the Ivorian people in general, and the youth in particular, to harness all their strength, souls, and energies to carry out this important and noble task. We shall succeed. Ivory Coast must be and will always be a peaceful country by the determination of its children. All its children. We have faith in that.

[Aubert] Mr President, is Al-Qadhdhafi, according to the statement you are reported to have made, Africa's greatest common divider?

[Houphouet-Boigny] I am not Al-Qadhdhafi's enemy. Politically we differ on some issues...but I have nothing against Al-Qadhdhafi, or Libya. Ivory Coast has no enemy. It only has friends. I was not the one who said Al-Qadhdhafi was Africa's greatest common divider. I said that in the world there are numerous unrepentant dividers and they must be discouraged. It is easy, peace must be achieved in justice.

LIBERIA

Official Reacts to Kennedy Statement on Aid

AB231850 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] The Liberian minister-counsellor for public affairs in the United States, J. Emmanuel Bowier, has declared that the people of Liberia are not intimidated by threats regarding the possible reduction or cancellation of U.S. aid to Liberia.

According to the Sunday, 22 February, edition of *The New York Times* newspaper, Minister-Counsellor Bowier reacted sharply to a statement issued by U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy on 21 February calling for a total discontinuation of U.S. aid to Liberia including military assistance. Senator Kennedy said he will work to cut off all U.S. assistance to Liberia. About $38 million in U.S. aid was earmarked for Liberia for the 1987 fiscal year. He said aid should be suspended until what he called free and fair presidential elections are held in Liberia.

Opposition: Teachers Union Ban Violates Rights

AB192223 Paris AFP in French 1832 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Monrovia, 19 Feb (AFP) — The principal opposition movement in Liberia, the Liberian Action Party (LAP), today condemned the government's decision to ban the activities of the National Union of Liberian Teachers (NULT), describing it as a violation of fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

The authorities did not give any reason for their decision, which was announced on Tuesday, [17 February] to ban the NULT until it obtained legal status. However, a spokesman of the teacher's union said the measure was linked with union demands for the payment of delayed salaries and an end to the arrest and dismissal of teachers who protested over issues concerning salaries.

MALI

Trade Union Delegation Departs for Moscow

AB221100 Bamako Domestic Service in French
0900 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] A delegation of the National Union of Mali Workers [UNTM] led by its general secretary, Bakary Karambe, and including Issa Doukoure, commissioner for union disputes, left Bamako yesterday for Moscow. In the Soviet capital, these trade union officials will represent the UNTM at the deliberations of the 18th congress of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions scheduled for 24-26 February.

NIGERIA

Babangida Recuperating in Paris; To Return 'Soon'

AB201530 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] The official delegation, which visited President Ibrahim Babangida in Paris, has returned to Lagos with a message of appreciation from the president. The secretary to the Federal Government, Chief Olu Falae, who was on the delegation, said General Babangida was appreciative of the concern shown by Nigerians over his illness. Chief Falae said the stitches on the president had been removed and that he was now receiving physiotherapy. Chief Falae said President Babangida would be returning to the country soon, but could not say exactly when.

The delegation, which returned yesterday, was led by the minister of defense and chairman of joint chiefs of staff, Major General Domkat Bali, and included the inspector general of police, Alhaji Mohammadu Gambo.

President Babangida is now recuperating after a surgical operation in the American Hospital in Paris.

TOGO

Eyadema Receives Chadian Secretary of State

AB231840 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, RPT founding chairman and president of the Republic, received Ahmed Korom, Chadian secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, at the Presidential Palace this morning. Mr Korom handed the president a message from his counterpart, Hissein Habre. After the audience, the Chadian president's envoy told the press the purpose of his visit to Togo. He also described the situation in his country, especially in northern Chad, where fighting is going on.

[Begin recording] [Korom] For many (?months) now, Chad has been facing a grave situation, a situation marked by renewed fighting in the north, the escalation of the Libyan aggression and occupation of the north of Chad, and by various diplomatic maneuvers initiated by a certain number of states. For this reason, the president of the Republic of Chad has deemed it necessary to brief his brothers and friends and, in particular, President Eyadema.

I have briefed the Togolese president fully on the grave and dangerous military situation in my country. As usual, the Togolese president expressed his solidarity with, and support for his brother, Hissein Habre, in his efforts to reconquer the part of the country under the Libyan expansionist and occupation forces.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, can you please describe the military (?situation) in northern Chad?

[Korom] The military situation in the north is marked not only by the increased Libyan military presence — you know that for almost 4 years now, the Libyans have occupied 550,000 square kms where they have stored highly sophisticated arms supplied by the Soviet Union. Now the number of Libyan troops [in northern Chad] is over 20,000 men; 20,000 men equipped with the necessary weapons: over 100 fighter and support planes, several hundred armored vehicles including BMP's, BTR's [words indistinct]. The Libyan occupation was completed by the construction of an air strip at Ouadi Doum. So, for us Chadians, the situation is very serious because the aggression and the occupation have assumed an unexpected dimension, a dimension that other countries' military experts had not anticipated. In the past few months, since January and February in particular, the Libyans have given a new dimension to the war in Chad, a [word indistinct] with more use of the Air Force. So it is no longer a simple occupation as often described, but a very serious military occupation.

[Reporter] There was a report recently saying that the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] chief of staff, Idriss Deby, had defected to the New GUNT. The report was denied by the Chadian ambassador to Paris. What are the facts?

[Korom] Well, I must say that in such as situation, it is part of the game to allege that such and such officials have defected to the enemy side. Comrade Idriss Deby, who used to be the FANT chief of staff, is no longer chief of staff. But he remains a fighter, a soldier. He has just completed a 1-year training course at the Paris Higher Military Academy. After completing his course, he returned to Chad and has been waiting to be reassigned, like any other Chadian soldier.

We are not surprised that the Libyans, who saw that some 2 months after his return Idriss Deby has not yet been reassigned, found this an unhoped-for occasion to spread rumors as a diversionary move designed to divert attention from the real problems of my country, Chad. Whether Idriss Deby defects to the Libyan side or not is not the important thing. I personally know him to be a very courageous and committed militant and patriot. In spite of his problems — in fact he has none — he will never defect to the Libyan side. He has fought the Libyans actively for 6 years. I would be surprised if Idriss Deby defected to the Libyans. Anyway, I want to issue a strong denial to the report, which is only part of the Libyan disinformation campaign.

[Reporter] What does the present political scene look like in Chad following the many defections to the government?

[Korom] The political scene in Chad is very serene. This is because the reconciliation, as a factor of peace in Chad, has been achieved 100 percent. When I say 100 percent, I really mean it. There are some disgruntled Chadians living outside the country today for personal reasons. Such Chadians are not convinced of what they are doing and they have no goals. We think that if there is a move to be initiated to enable Chad to recover its territorial integrity and total peace, it must be based absolutely on a number of things; namely, that Chad is under aggression and occupation. Any move must be dependent on the withdrawal of the Libyan troops, all Libyan troops, from all Chadian territory. Then, and only then, can we hold talks with the Libyans. In the third phase, we can then speak of the reunion of all Chadians, because there are no more Chadians; there are only those who are held prisoners now by Libya. [sentence as heard] As long as the Libyans remain in Chad, as long as they do not pull out of Chad, these Chadians held by the Libyans cannot do anything to contribute to peace and reconciliation.

So we consider that the political scene — to use your words — is very serene. There is absolute peace in the part of the country under our control. Chadians in general have now geared their efforts and energies toward the liberation of their country and their only enemy today is Libya, which we will fight until we totally liberate our territory under Libyan occupation. [end recording]

Soviet Youths Begin 3-Day Visit 22 February

AB221549 Lome Domestic Service in French
1230 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] A 300-strong Soviet youth delegation from the Soviet Communist Youth League, [Komsomol], arrived in Lome for a 3-day visit this morning. The Komsomol delegation, which arrived by ship, was welcomed at the Lome harbor by (Kacou Ablam), member of the Central Committee and deputy delegate general of the youth wing of the RPT, and by His Excellency Sergey Shaverdyan, Soviet ambassador to Togo.

Welcoming the Soviet youths to Togo, Mr (Ablam) expressed his delight in welcoming them to Lome, the international crossroad of dialogue, and wished them a happy stay in Togo.

On his part, (Eugene Sotosov), leader of the Komsomol delegation, said their visit to Togo offers them the opportunity to strengthen friendly relations between the two youth organizations from Togo and the Soviet Union. Immediately on arrival, the 300 Soviet youths visited Lome, notably the Rallying Square [La Place de 'Appel], the party school, the Mama Ndanida Square, and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

They will go to Kpalime and Gbodafor tomorrow before meeting with the National Executive Bureau of the RPT youth wing in the afternoon.

MOZAMBIQUE

Tanzanian Troops Reportedly Sent To Fight MNR

MB231658 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 23 Feb 87

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] For some time now there have been reports that Tanzania has been sending its troops into Mozambique to fight alongside Mozambicans and Zimbabweans against MNR rebels. The reports have never been confirmed or denied by the Tanzanian Government. Our East Africa correspondent, Mike Woodridge, has just been to Quelimane, the provincial capital of Mozambique's Zambezia Province, where much of the recent fighting has taken place. On the line, Robin White asked him what he had found out:

[Begin recording] [Woodridge] I understand that there is about one battalion of Tanzanian troops in Mozambique now. That seems to be at least 1,200 men. There was an eyewitness in the town of Quelimane, that is the main town in Zambezia Province, who saw Soviet Antonov planes bringing Tanzanian troops in from Dar es Salaam over a period of 4 days, a couple of weeks ago, two flights a day apparently. And then when I traveled out from Quelimane to the town of Nicuadala, which is about 20 miles away, I was also told by people there that they had actually seen the Tanzanian troops deployed. What we don't know yet is whether they have actually been engaged in any combat against the Renamo rebels. I suspect that for the most part, anyway at the moment, their role is to patrol that area and make sure that Renamo do not have a chance to approach Quelimane again as they were definitely doing at one stage last year.

[White] Are the Tanzanians, do you know, fighting alongside the Mozambicans or in separate units?

[Woodridge] That's not entirely clear, but I think that they will eventually be working together. Certainly the Zimbabweans for their part, rather further south along the Beira corridor, have been anxious to coordinate all their actions with the Mozambican troops. And there is one interesting element in this, in that I understand that the Tanzanians will not be operating, or for the time being at least, in the provinces of Mozambique directly bordering Tanzania, and that one reason for this is that they certainly are anxious not to give Renamo any excuse to make incursions into Tanzania. [end recording]

Chissano Returns Home From Zambia Visit

MB221102 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano returned to Maputo this morning from an official visit to Zambia which began last Thursday. During his stay in Zambia, President Chissano held talks with his Zambian counterpart, Kenneth Kaunda, on bilateral cooperation in political, economic, and cultural fields, as well as on the situation in southern Africa. Chissano also visited places of economic interest, met with the Mozambican community in Zambia, and presided over a mass rally in Lusaka.

According to the final communique, the two presidents expressed satisfaction with the excellent relations between the two countries and manifested the desire to work toward strengthening them further. Joaquim Chissano invited Kenneth Kaunda to visit Mozambique, and it is hoped that the date will be fixed by the relevant diplomatic channels.

Briefs Journalists on Visit

MB221905 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Zambia will increase its efforts to support the struggle against the armed banditry in Mozambique, despite its economic difficulties, President Joaquim Chissano revealed today. In an informal meeting with Mozambican journalists on his return trip from Zambia, President Joaquim Chissano said that all Frontline States do not have the same ability to take action at the same level against South Africa's destabilization of Mozambique.

During the two meetings in Lusaka between Presidents Chissano and Kaunda, it was decided to call on the international community to support the Frontline States' defense capabilities so that they stand a better chance of bringing peace to the region. During the talks, the two presidents analyzed the situation in southern Africa, the problem of sanctions against South Africa, and the veto by the United States and the United Kingdom at the UN Security Council. President Joaquim Chissano stated that Zambia is preparing to implement the measures decided by the Commonwealth against South Africa. On bilateral cooperation, it was agreed to revitalize the Mozambique-Zambia joint commission in vital sectors. Toward that end, the Zambian prime minister is expected to visit Mozambique soon, and his Mozambique counterpart is also expected to visit Zambia.

President Joaquim Chissano added that the situation of displaced Mozambicans, who fled to Zambia due to the armed bandits' criminal actions in Mozambique, was also discussed. It was decided that support for these displaced Mozambicans should be increased and work done toward their urgent repatriation, especially to Tete Province. The two leaders also discussed the strengthening of security along the common borders to prevent enemy infiltration. President Joaquim Chissano described his first visit to Zambia as very fruitful and fraternal.

UNFAO Approves Emergency Aid for Drought Victims

MB241046 Dakar PANA in English 1002 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] Rome, 24 Feb (PANA) — FAO Director-General Edouard Saouma has approved emergency food aid worth 4.7 million dollars for drought victims and displaced persons in Mozambique, said an FAO press release received by PANA yesterday. The food aid grants will come from the resouces of the UN/FAO world food programme.

The Provinces of Inhambane, Gaza, Sofala, Manica and Maputo will receive 11,000 tons of cereals to meet the needs of 611,000 persons, 1,822 tons of pulses for 759,000 persons, and 50 tons of dehydrated food products.

Unfavourable agricultural conditions and civil strife are having disastrous effects on parts of the population. A recent FAO special report on sub-Saharan Africa's food situation cited an urgent need to expedite the delivery of emergency food assistance to Mozambique, where, according to government estimates, 5.6 million persons are at risk. The report estimates that Mozambique will need 610,000 tons of food aid in 1987. As of early January, pledges by donors totalled 470,000 tons but only 288,000 had been received at port.

SOUTH AFRICA

Police Arrest Five 'Libyan-Trained Terrorists'

MB201331 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1330 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Cape Town, February 20, SAPA — Five "Libyan-trained terrorists" and two people who allegedly helped them had been arrested by the SA police, the minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, announced today. Arms and explosives and parts of Libyan defence force uniforms and money were captured with them.

Three of the five were among a group of 12 South Africans arrested at Athens airport last year when irregularities with their travel documents were noticed by customs officials. They were travelling on South African, Tanzania, Zimbabwean and Botswana passports at the time. They were later released and returned to Libya for further military training, Mr Vlok said in a statement issued in Cape Town.

The five were captured when they infiltrated South Africa through Botswana from the Zimbabwe.

A sixth suspected terrorist escaped, Mr Vlok said.

The weaponry captured included Scorpion machine pistols, AK47 rifles, several blocks of TNT, electrical detonations, safety fuses and ammunition.

Mr Vlok said some of the detainees wer members of Qibla, a "leftist radical organization operating under the banner of the PAC."

Police had "thwarted" them in executing orders which, he said included attacks on so-called soft targets and on members of the security forces. Police investigations were continuing. Those held were being detained in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

Transkei Releases Detained AFP News Editor

MB231409 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1408 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 23, SAPA — *Agence France Presse's* South African news editor Mr Graham Brown was released by Transkei authorities today, AFP journalist Mr Barrie Smith said in Johannesburg. Mr Smith said Mr Brown phoned the agency's Johannesburg bureau from Transkei security police offices in Umtata saying he was waiting for South African Embassy staff to collect him.

Mr Brown, a 39-year-old South African citizen, had apparently been held under security legislation since his arrest on Saturday. Attempts to obtain official comment from the Transkei authorities were unsuccessful.

He is expected to return to Bisho to collect his effects at a hotel before returning to Johannesburg.

Editor on Detention

MB231942 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1940 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 23, SAPA — Freed *Agence France Presse* news editor, Graham Brown, arrived in Johannesburg this evening after spending a weekend in detention in an Umtata prison cell with awaiting trial prisoners. Brown was detained at a roadblock on Saturday afternoon while he was in Transkei following up the apparent coup attempt in Bisho, Ciskei, last week.

He said he had no idea why he had been detained and all his questions about his detention were not answered by the authorities while he was in prison.

"I was in a cell with awaiting trial criminals from 5pm on Saturday to today with no one I could turn to for help," Brown told SAPA from his Johannesburg home shortly after his arrival from Umtata on a Transkei Airways flight.

"Conditions were awful — but they were the same conditions throughout the prison." He said his plight had come to the attention of *Agence France Presse* and his wife, Dolores, through the representative of a car hire company who had been told to collect the car Mr Brown had hired.

"The police came and asked me for the car keys on Sunday morning and I asked the representative who had come to collect the car to phone the (AFP) office and my wife and tell them what had happened to me.

"He must have done this within minutes," he said, as AFP had contacted the Transkeian officials, French and American diplomats and released the story of his detention early yesterday.

The first Brown knew whether anyone was working for his release was when prisoners from other cells told him they had heard of his detention in a radio news story.

"It was then that I knew the wheels were turning.

"At about 10.30 this morning the police took me out of the cell and gave me back all the things they take away from one on arrest, like my belt, money and keys and took me to security headquarters.

"I made a statement that was self-explanatory and they released me.

"Once I had made my statement and the explanation had been accepted, the police were very nice to me and apologetic about the detention," Brown said.

"But I still had to spend over 36 hours in a cell before anything was done to get me out," he added.

Ciskei Awaiting Confirmation of Arrests

MB201120 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1117 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] East London Feb 20 SAPA — The reported arrest of another four men after the attack on President Lennox Sebe's Bisho home yesterday has not been confirmed by Ciskeian authorities. They were reported to have been arrested in Berlin, between King Williams Town and East London.

Ciskei's deputy director-general of foreign affairs and information, Mr Headman Somtunzi, said today he was awaiting confirmation of the arrests, which may have been made by the South African security forces. Confirmation of the arrests would bring the number of attackers accounted for to seven, as one was killed near President Sebe's home, another was critically wounded and a third was captured.

The Ciskeian authorities put the number of attackers at 23 — an estimate based largely on the fact that they had spare civilian shoes in their troop carrier. Ciskeian police found 22 pairs of shoes in the carrier and the dead man had already put his on.

As yet, Ciskeian authorities have not confirmed a theory that some of the attackers may have been airlifted out of Ciskei by helicopter. They have confirmed that contact was made with two "foreign" helicopters, which were chased across the border in the direction of Komga.

Ciskeian troops and police are searching the countryside around Bisho in case some of the attackers are still in the vicinity.

There is no panic about the situation in King Williams Town, where the sound of gunfire was clearly heard for 10 minutes during yesterday's battle. King Williams Town residents interviewed today said they were "shocked" at the incident, but not particularly worried about their safety.

The MP for King Williams Town, Mr Pat Rogers, called on the government to step in and stop the "nonsense."

Transkei Leader Attacks Sebe

MB201414 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Transkei has broken its silence over yesterday's armed raid on Ciskei President Lennox Sebe's palace. Zahed Cahalia reports on the news conference addressed by George Matanzima in Umtata a short while ago.

[Cachalia] Without rebutting Ciskei's allegations of evidence of Umtata's involvement in the raid, Chief Matanzima launched a scathing attack on what he described as a reign of terror being waged by President Sebe. He says recent events are a culimination of a rapidly deteriorating political situation in Ciskei which has precipitated systematic mass removals as well as mass killings and torture in the homeland. Chief Matanzima has also questioned the legitimacy of the Ciskei's administration and particularly what he sees as the persecution of people on the sole grounds that they are Transkeian. The prime minister goes on to say that the sole cause of the problem between the two areas is, in his words, the continued imposition of one man's will on an unwilling people. Chief Matanzima's stinging attack on Mr Sebe, however, neither confirms nor explains, the need for armed action in what was already a particularly explosive situation.

Ciskei Says Attack Coup Attempt

MB201506 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1505 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Bisho, Feb 20 SAPA — The attack on Ciskei President Lennox Sebe's private home early yesterday was "a well planned coup to take over the government of Ciskei", the Ciskei Government said today.

"The Ciskei Government is greatly appalled by the malicious attempt to assassinate President Lennox Sebe and his wife. There is no doubt that this was a well planned coup to take over the Government of Ciskei," the independent homeland said in a statement.

There was "concrete and sufficient evidence" that a former Seolous Scout — named in the statement as a Major van der Riet — "masterminded the abortive plan".

"According to appointment cards left behind this is a member of SADF, appointment number 002156pp and his rank is that of a staff sergeant," the statement said.

"His appointment dates as far back as the 17 July 1980. On being appointed to the Transkei defence, he was allocated the number of 1415 and was appointed major."

The statement went on: "Part of the evidence is a plan of the route which was followed, the various stages of implementation and the code names.

"This plan is part of the booty which was captured when the Transkeian soldiers were routed.

"A substantial amount of money, foodstuffs and ammunition form part of the booty. Also is a list of selous scouts," the statement said.

From "information gleaned from the man briefing was done at airwing at 16h00", the statement said.

"They left Umtata at 19h00. At Kei they received code from relay. The latter point suggests conspiracy and collaboration. The contingent arrived at Bisho at 24h00."

The statment said it was surprising "as to how army trucks from Transkei passed through the Republic of South Africa without being detected."

"Bearing in mind the time the attackers spent on South African soil as detailed in the plan and taking into account the precision of the execution of the plan, it is incomprehensible why they were not spotted."

According to the plan ministers were to be held as hostages.

"Radio Ciskei was to be captured to announce the overthrow of the president and the Government of the Republic of Ciskei. The coup was to be justified by issuing the following statement:

"The commander's office received information that the Ciskeian president had instructed his senior intelligence officer Major Sandile to hire a team from the RSA. Their task was to oust Transkei [as received] and by whatever means to return to Ciskei the above personnel."

Chief Lent Maqoma would then take over reigns of government, the statement said. "He is reportedly to have been on a stand-by at an East London hotel on the 18 February 1987."

The "now infamous coup should convince the myopic critics and enemies of the Republic of Ciskei that the Transkei has her eyes on Ciskei and for this purpose she is prepared to use force of arms," the statement said.

The statement said Chief Maqoma was "discharged from office" on Feb 18 because of "dereliction of duty."

"The dereliction of duty by the said Maqoma resulted in a neglect of his erstwhile tribe and actually brought the functioning of the relevant tribal authority to a halt to the prejudice of the peoples living in the area," the statement said.

"Maqoma's dereliction of duty came about when he deserted his tribe to go and live in Transkei from where he and certain fugitives from justice in Ciskei were attempting to fan unrest and dissatisfaction in Ciskei."

No immediate comment could be obtainable from spokesmen for the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence in Cape Town. A spokesman for the SADF's media liaison service in Pretoria said attempts were being made to obtain clarity on the contents of the Ciskei Government's statement.

Later a spokesman for the SA Defence Force said in Pretoria: "The Defense force is not aware of a Major van der Riet with the identity number quoted in the statement. No person can be a member of the SA Defence Force and another military organization at the same time. Even if this person was a member of the defence force at some stage, the defence force would have no jurisdiction over him once he had left its service."

Police Deny Arresting Attackers

MB201757 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1752 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Bisho, Feb 20, SAPA — A South African police spokesman today denied reports that raiders involved in the attack on Ciskei President Lennox Sebe's residence at Bisho yesterday, had been arrested by the South African security forces. The police liason officer for the border area, Lt Dot Vyver, said she had no knowledge of any persons arrested in connection with the attack. Reports said that four men were held yesterday.

Lt Vyver said South African security forces were involved in tracking down the attackers as it was common practice to give assistance to a neighbouring state when requested to do so. However no arrests had been made.

The spokesman for the Ciskei police directorate, Col Avery Ngaki, declined to comment on the issue, but conceded follow-up operations were underway.

The Ciskei deputy director general for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Information, Mr Headman Somtunzi, said the man who died during the attack had been identified as Rifleman Mbuziselo Tempton Nondela. The critically wounded man was identified as Rifleman A. Zulu. Rifleman Zulu has been admitted to the intensive care unit at Cecilia Makiwane Hospital. Mr Somtunzi said his condition was not known.

State Drops Terrorism Charges Against Seven

MB230852 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0734 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 23, SAPA — The Duduza trial ended dramatically on Friday when the state dropped charges of terrorism against the seven accused in the Pretoria Supreme Court. The trial, which started on August 11 last year came to an abrupt end after the prosecutor, Mr John Oberholzer, accepted plea of not guilty by the accused on the charge of terrorism.

Joseph Titus Mazibuko, 18, John Mlangeni, 21, Samuel Lekatsa, 19, Humphrey Tshabalala, 19, Veli Mazibuko, 18, Hosea Lengasane, 20 and Cedric Dladla, 19, had pleaded not guilty to charges of terrorism, attempted murder, possession of hand grenades and a bomb and malicious damage to property when the trial started.

They changed their pleas on Friday.

Mr Justice Stafford, sitting with an assessor, acquitted all of them on the main count of terrorism but convicted each one of them on the charge of possessing a hand grenade.

Lengosane and Dladla were also found guilty of attempting to murder Warrant Officer Ben Balayi, his wife Grace and children during midnight on June 25 or 26, 1985 in Duduza, Nigel.

Lekatsa, Veli Mazibuko and Tshabala were found guilty of having maliciously attempted to damage the house of Mr David Namane, a businessman in Duduza. Titus Mazibuko and Mlangeni were convicted for the attempted malicious damage to former community councillor Mr Steven Namane's house.

The seven were arrested after eight of their colleagues were killed and some of the accused had their hands amputated after hand grenades in their possession exploded while trying to attack certain targets in Duduza.

Vlok Say 3,989 Detained Under Security Act

MB201526 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1520 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Parliament, Feb 20, SAPA — A total of 3,989 people were detained in terms of the Internal Security Act. During 1986, the minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said today in reply to a question by Mr Tian van der Merwe (PFP Green Point). He said 104 people had been charged in terms of Section 29 of the act and 159 under Section 50 and some of the trials had not yet finalised. Those convicted in terms of the act numbered 37. In reply to a question by Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP Houghton), Mr Vlok said one female had been detained under the Internal Security Act.

Vlok Refuses To Give Figures for Banned Meetings

MB201529 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1500 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] In parliament [Law and Order Minister] Mr Vlok has refused to say how many meetings have been prohibited in terms of the emergency regulations in each police district since 12 June last year. Mr Vlok was replying to a question by the PFP's Tiaan van der Merwe. He said it was not in the public interest to reveal such figures. Replying to questions posed by the PFP's Pierre Cronje, he said a total of 64 detainees held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act had made written representation about their detention or release. None had been successful. He also said inspectors had visited 2,738 detainees held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act, and magistrates had visited 3,143 last year.

NRP Throws Support Behind Worrall Candidacy

MB201204 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Former London Ambassador Denis Worrall is receiving more support in his bid to win the parliamentary seat of Helderberg. The NRP leader, Bill Sutton, says party supporters should vote for Dr Worrall. He says perhaps the former ambassador could get answers on reform out of his NP opponent, the constitutional affairs minister, Mr Chris Heunis.

PFP Not To Oppose Worrall

MB201552 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1500 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] The Progressive Federal Party has decided not to oppose Dr Denis Worrall in the Helderberg constituency in the 6 May election. PFP leader Colin Eglin said it was important to return to parliament the maximum number of MP's who are committed to reform.

WEEKLY MAIL Carries 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB210935 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 20-26 Feb 87 p 4

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Text] Unrest Deaths

At least 1,298 people died in political violence during 1986, according to the South African Institute of Race Relations. The SAIRR said the number of unrest deaths could be even higher because the classification and gathering of data had become even more difficult since the imposition of restrictions on the press. The known total number of deaths since September 1984 is 2,326.

The SAIRR said the reported average daily fatality rate between January 1, 1986 and the end of the first State of Emergency was 3.8. It increased to 6.4 after the Emergency was lifted and has dropped to 2.1 since the imposition of the second Emergency.

According to the SAIRR, about half the deaths occurred "as a result of the conflict within the black community" and about 400 people died at the hands of the security forces. The rest of the deaths occurred in other types of violence including insurgency incidents or in circumstances which were unclear.

According to the Cape-based Repression Monitoring Group [RMG], a total of 1,306 people died in political violence in the first 11 months of last year — 48 percent more than in the whole of 1985. The reported daily average number of deaths for the period January to November 1986 was 3.9 compared with 2.4 in 1985, the RMG said.

According to the Bureau for Information, a total of 916 people died in the unrest last year. The bureau said the security forces were responsible for 34.8 percent of the deaths recorded between January and June while "black agitators" were responsible for 65.2 percent. In the period between July and December, the security forces were responsible for 30 percent of the deaths and "black agitators" for 70 percent, the bureau said.

Its figures do not include deaths in the "independent homelands" or deaths related to guerrilla insurgency.

SADF Deaths

A total of 115 members of the South African Defence Force were killed in military operations and training accidents in 1986, Deputy Minister of Defence Wynand Breytenbach said in reply to a question in parliament last week.

Political Trials During 1986

During 1986 a total of 49 people faced or were due to face charges of treason in eight different trials, according to the Detainees' Parents Support Committee [DPSC]. Six of these trials have been completed during which ten people were convicted and eight people acquitted (three of them in an uncompleted trial). The year ended with 31 people still facing charges of treason in two different trials.

The DPSC also recorded a total of 108 political trials under the Internal Security Act and other acts involving 672 people, of whom 487 were acquitted or had charges against them withdrawn. This does not include trials for public violence, the number of which is so large that the DPSC said it is impossible to estimate.

The following is a breakdown of the known trials under the Internal Security Act and other acts: Terrorism — 27 trials, 76 people charged (43 acquitted or withdrawan); furthering the aims of a banned organisation — four trials, seven people (four); subversion — six trials, 32 charged (32); sedition — one trial, five charged (five); contravention of Internal Security Act — eight trials, 12 charged (eight); contravention of Emergency regulations — two trials, two charged (two); sabotage — one trial, five charged (0); possession of firearms/explosives — five trials, seven charged (one); possession of banned articles — 17 trials, 21 charged (13); breaking banning order — two trials, two charged (two); quoting listed person — two trials, two charged (one); attending unlawful gathering — 10 trials, 370 charged (289); Demonstrations Act contravention — six trials, 57 charged (52); Police Act contravention — one trial, two charged (one); Prisons Act contravention — one trial, one charged (one); refusing to testify — five trials, five charged (0); harbouring — three trials, eight charged (five); obstructing police — four trials, four charged (three); intimidation — two trials, 13 charged (11); public disturbance — one trial, 41 charged (26).

Prisoner of Conscience

Sister Bernard Ncube, 51, Federation of Transvaal Women (Fedtraw) president, was detained under the Emergency regulations on June 12 last year and is still being held. This is believed to be her sixth period of detention over the last four years.

Ncube was born and grew up in Dube, Soweto. In 1955 she entered the Companions' Catholic Order and trained at Roma in Lesotho. For the next 20 years she taught at primary schools in Munsieville, Dobsonville and Kagiso. During this period she completed a diploma in theology.

As a result of her religious commitment and experiences in teaching she became politically active both in the church and the wider community. During the 1976 uprising she was involved with support work for detainees. Since the late seventies she has played a central role in forming women's organisations in the East Rand and throughout the Transvaal. In 1984 these organisations came together to form Fedtraw and Ncube was elected president.

She has also played a key role in the Kagiso community where she is known as "Mma rona" (our mother). She regularly works in the Kagiso self-help centre. Last year she was instrumental in bringing a court interdict against the activities of the SAP and SADF in Kagiso.

Banned Books, Publications and Objects

Awa-finnaba — An African Literary Cultural Journal — No 8 March — October 1986 (not stated); *International Viewpoint* — Issue No 111 — 22 December 1986 (press-edition Communication, France); *The Marxist Reader: Works That Changed the World* (Karl Marx/Friedrich Engels/V.I. Lenin/Joseph Stalin); *New Africa News No. 60* October Dec 1986 (*New Africa News* collective 3, Melbourne); *Social Change and Development No. 15*, December 1986 (not stated); *Workers' Press No. 57* Saturday January 10 87 and *Workers' Press No. 55* Saturday January 3 1987 (Extrasearch Ltd, London); *Fight Racism: Fight Imperialism* (Larkin Publications, London); *Azania Vrij Jaargang 13* nr 3/4 1986 (Azania Komitee, Rotterdam).

Information Bureau Issues 20 Feb Unrest Report

MB210910 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0907 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 21, SAPA — The following is the Bureau for Information's unrest report from Pretoria, for the period 00h01 to 23h59 yesterday:

"At approximately 01h00 an unknown number of radicals threw petrol bombs at the home of Mrs Sarah Moeroedi of 15138 Mamelodi East (Pretoria).

The following women and children were seriously injured in the attack: Leta Moeroedi, 21, Monica Moeroedi, 24, Lida Moeroedi, 5, Sama Letzi, 12, and Ellel Letzi, 9.

"Considerable damage was also caused to the house.

"No motive for the attack has as yet been established and police investigations are continuing.

"A black man, V.P. Mbambo, 52, and a black woman, Gwen Mkhwanazi, 58, were seriously injured when two unknown black men threw a hand grenade throught he back door of the Wazanioke bakery in Kwamashu (Durban).

"No motive for this attack has yet been established and police investigations are continuing.

"In Botshabelo (Bloemfontein) four female and 11 male juveniles as well as 27 females and 114 males over the age of 18 were arrested by security forces when they (apparently all pupils of the Khoa school) intimidated pupils of the Reamoletswe school.

"Other unrest related incidents reported, comprised isolated stone throwing at buses.

"Damage caused was minimal and no arrests have been reported."

21 Feb Unrest Report

MB220936 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0935 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 22, SAPA — The following is the unrest report from the Bureau for Information, Pretoria, for the period 00h01 to 2400h yesterday:

"Fewer than five unrest related incidents, all stone throwings, were reported during the above period.

"Nobody was injured and damage was reported as minimal."

22 Feb Unrest Report

MB230911 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0904 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Pretoria Feb 23 SAPA — The Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 0001 to 2400 February 22:

"The body of Constable Ungise Mbana was found in Kwazekele (Port Elizabeth) on Saturday night.

"According to reports received Const Mbana and a friend were apparently on their way to deliver a death notice, when they were attacked by approximately 25 black radicals. The friend managed to escape.

"Const Mbana's body, covered with knife wounds and partially burned, was discovered later. No arrests have thus far been made and police investigations are continuing.

"Other unrest related incidents reported during the above period, comprised isolated incidents of stone throwing and petrol bomb attacks. No arrests have been reported and damage has been reported as being minimal."

23 Feb Unrest Report

MB240808 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0806 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] Pretoria Feb 24 SAPA — Following is the Bureau for Information unrest situation report for the period 00h01 to 24h00 yesterday:

"Three unidentified black men set fire to a black woman, Thambhene Mahbene, in Tembisa (Kempton Park) yesterday. The woman sustained serious burn wounds and was later admitted to the Tembisa Hospital. No arrests have thus far been made.

"Two black youths were arrested by the security forces in Umlazi (Durban) yesterday after the intimidation of pupils.

"A group of black radical youths attacked the house of a man in Sharpeville (Vereeniging) and set fire to his private vehicle yesterday. A man was slightly injured in the incident. No arrests have thus far been made."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

21 Feb Press Review

MB210442 [Editorial Report]

CITIZEN on Worrall

Commenting on the announcement by Denis Worrall, South Africa's former ambassador to the UK, that he would contest the Helderberg seat occupied by Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis in the upcoming election, Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 20 February asks in a page 6 editorial: "We wonder whether Dr Worrall is being politically wise by standing against Mr Heunis in order 'to give the government a real mandate, a mandate which speaks on issues bothering South Africans and our friends overseas.' How does an Independent, even if he does reasonably well in an election, give a government a mandate?" "Why should the government even bother to listen to his criticisms or suggestions if he has no national constituency?" "Put bluntly, as an Independent Dr Worrall will not achieve anything. As for beating Mr Heunis in order to get some point across, he hasn't any hope whatsoever."

STAR on Worrall-Heunis Clash

"Some may dismiss the decision as quixotic, but by choosing to stand in Helderberg on May 6, Dr Denis Worrall has picked not only the right opponent but the right issue too," Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 20 February says in a page 10 editorial. "Two factors make the Cape clash important. The first is that Dr Worrall has chose an unequivocal issue: white South Africans, he argues, are far more ready for real reform than a timid government gives them credit for. The challenge to voters to confirm this is the more compelling for coming from a disillusioned Nationalist constitution-maker. The second factor is that Dr Worrall can help pierce the smokescreen that obscures Mr Heunis's constitutional rhetoric. At the heart of our problem is how to share power with all races. So far, the Government's only answer has been to tart up apartheid. It won't — and Dr Worrall now has the chance to expose this crucial weakness before it becomes a fatal one."

STAR on Racial Violence

Commenting on the incident in Pretoria earlier this week in which "armed white youths on the rampage left a trial of badly injured blacks," *The Star* says in a second editorial on the same page: "Racial violence is a natural sequel to this country's institutionalised racialism — especially a brand of racialism that allows one race to believe that it is superior in every way." "Keeping people apart creates and perpetuates animosity — it does not keep the peace."

Business Must Oppose Discrimination

Also on page 10, *The Star* carries an edited version of a speech delivered by Simon Kutumela, a leading Pretoria businessman and chief executive officer of *Africa Business* magazine published by the National African Federated Chambers of Commerce, to the "Building Bridges" groups of white and black Pretoria residents. Kutumela notes that for many blacks, "capitalism is equated with apartheid because it is a fact of life that those who have things — own property, have the vote, or can decide their own lives — are on one side while the black 'have nots' are on the other side of the apartheid line." "In the present difficult situation the act of silently going about one's business can be seen as supporting the status quo of discrimination and injustice. Business must identify itself unequivocally with the important changes that are needed to move South Africa away from discrimination." The business community has issued statements on citizenship, education, influx control, and forced removals, but "words are cheap." "Discussion, debate, analysis as well as commissions and research are fine and even necessary to a point. However, our present situation demands, above all else, a sense of urgency, a sense of purpose in addressing and redressing the errors of the past."

BUSINESS DAY on Worrall 'Boldness'

"The decision by Denis Worrall to challenge the National Party's heir apparent and chief constitution-maker, Chris Heunis, for his Helderberg seat in Parliament displays a boldness of vision that has been lacking our politics," Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 20 February says in a page 4 editorial. If Worrall wins, "his victory must transform South African politics and possibly unfreeze an alignment that has lasted, unchanged in its essentials since 1948. The prospect is a breathtaking one, laden with drama." Rather than seek a safe seat in Natal, Worrall has chosen to run against Heunis, the "master of obfuscation," who "has himself become a symbol of the complexity and obscurity of Nationalist constitutional thinking. This is why Heunis is such a splendid target for Worrall who, unashamedly, seeks to break the sterile mould of white politics."

CAPE TIMES on Vlok 'Arrogance'

"The performance in Parliament this week of the new Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, serves as yet another telling index of how rapidly the South African Government is warming to the practices and values common in dictatorships. In a display of authoritarian arrogance, Mr Vlok simply refused to furnish details about the many thousands of people his government has chosen to lock up without the benefit of a trial because he did not consider it 'in the interests of the country,'" Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 19 February says in a page editorial. "What impertinence! Who does Mr Vlok think he is? What has become of ministerial accountability to Parliament? Are we to assume that Mr Vlok now considers himself to be above the law and practice and tradition of Parliament and feels no longer obliged to inform taxpayers how he is using their money?"

CAPE TIMES Urges Nonracial Education

Commenting on moves by the government to limit the number of students at "'white'" universities to cut costs, the *Cape Times* says in a second editorial on the same page: "Greater South Africa has about 20 universities, arguably too many. The proliferation is the legacy of Verwoerdian ethnic tidiness. What South Africa needs is fewer universities, more students, and less campus ethnicity. The starting-point is to unify all education under one non-racial control and to dispense with enforced ethnic arrangements in university (and school) education."

CITY PRESS: Fears of Further Clampdown

"We were filled with horror to learn that Department of National Health and Population Development inspectors have added some notable names to their 'witch-hunt' list in the fund-raising section. These organisations are the Allan Boesak Foundation, the Black Lawyers' Association, the Cape's Montagu Project and many bodies in Natal," declares Johannesburg *City Press* in English for 22 February [date as published] in a page 2 editorial. "We are rudely reminded of those horrible Salem witch-hunts of the McCarthy era in the United States." "The only difference in South Africa today is that we have a difference script and different players." "But how are we expected to interpret the fears that have surfaced in the townships that the government is planning clampdown on various community, church and independent educational organisations? Let the government come clean and tell us why these investigations are being conducted."

Indian Education Authorities Racist

A "'strictly confidential' circular the 'Indian' education authorities have sent to principals on admitting 'African' children to schools controlled by the House of Delegates," is the subject of a page 10 *City Press* column by Ameen Akhalwaya, editor of *The Indicator*. "The circular smacks of racism. It reflects the 'non-white mentality' Steve Biko and his associates warned us about nearly two decades ago. It shows that the 'Indian' education authorities are suffering from the 'us' and 'them' syndrome, reflecting voluntary acceptance of what the racists have been propagating...." One requirement states that "'accommodation and other facilities for black pupils must be available — but only after provision for Indian pupils has been made.' They're learning the Nats' language very quickly. Wasn't that the same argument the Nats used to justify separate public amenities, Group Areas and the quota and permit systems at universities?" Other requirements on "physical stature" sound "like something straight out of the race classification handbook." "The confidential circular is a racist document covered in reasonable-sounding language."

22 Feb Press Review

MB220420 [Editorial Report]

STAR: Bureaucracy Threatening Standards

"South Africans have had an unrelieved diet of bad news for nearly a year...ever since the Government snubbed the 'Eminent Persons Group'; dumped reform; raided Harare, and started locking up thousands of people. When can we hope for change?" asks Harvey Tyson in his "Undercurrent Affairs" column on page 10 of Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 21 February. The press, "as messengers" is "not only gagged, but also blamed for the faults of those who have plunged our society into moral, political, and economic morasses." "What we should take seriously is the deteriorating standards of our society." "First, we now permit the Government to grab almost anyone; lock him up without telling him why he has been arrested; and keep him either in solitary confinement or in an overcrowded cell for an indefinite period." "Second, we allow the Government to decide what we should be told and what information should be kept from us." "When can we hope for a change away from censorship, detentions, repression and bureaucratic madness? Well, the trouble is that bureaucracy tends to perpetuate itself. Already censorship has created a new bureaucracy." "Change will be a long time coming, I fear. You cannot jettison your standards and expect them miraculously to reappear."

WEEKLY MAIL: Journalist Speaks to Corporate Group

Johannesburg *The Weekly Mail* in English for 20-26 February, on pages 14 and 15, carries "extracts from a speech presented to senior executives of the Shell corporation at a 'strategy workshop' last week by journalist Mono Badela." He says: "When we talk of the future in South Africa we can talk of only one thing: majority rule in a nonracial, fully-democratic country." "South Africa today is a country at war with itself...." "I cannot be surprised at the intensity of the response shaking our country today. I can only be surprised that it has been so long coming." But among the brutalities of this "revolution" is found "much that can only be described as beautiful: in the smoking ruins of our townships is being built a political organisation unrivalled in our history." "Politically, the opposition movements, led by the ANC and the UDF, have fought the government to a stalemate: the government cannot impose its will in the townships — all it can do is kill." "Unable to crush its opposition, the government has tried to buy it off cheaply, with a reformist strategy hardly worth the name." "For the mass movements, the situation is clear: they believe they have the initiative and must take power, inch by inch, from the Nationalist government and its allies." "The townships must become 'fortresses of democracy.' This may seem extreme, but consider this: 'alternative structures' are growing in the townships...." "Representatives of South African capital did beat a path to Lusaka...." The corporations "did nothing about our suffering until we forced you to." "What I am telling you is this: Talk to the people's organisations, let them be your guide." "...One day their government is going to be in a position to control the fate of your company, just as you, today, control their lives."

23 Feb Press Review

MB230725 [Editorial Report]

THE SUNDAY STAR Urges Greater Pressure on NP

"The goings-on at the Pretoria school over a black schoolboy athlete highlighted an all-too-familiar facet of ingrained race prejudice — but also the way the people of this land are slowly getting to grips with the monster," notes the page 14 editorial in Johannesburg *The Sunday Star* in English on 22 February. "Upset by the actions of a verkramp [narrow-minded] school management council which barred the black youngster from a sports meeting, the parents voted by a large majority to oust the council." But, the paper notes that the school board's decision was "merely the product of years of official policy encouraging maximum separation at all levels." The paper also believes that "even Nationalist thinking is evolving in response to the pressures of realities at home and abroad. With bolder leadership it could evolve much faster, and carry all but an expendable far-Right fringe with it. This is the point of challenge from Wyndand Malan [former NP MP for Randburg] and Denis Worrall [former ambassador to London] and the other disillusioned top Nationalists who are backing them."

Multiracial Senate To Exclude Blacks

Political correspondent David Breier writes on the same page that "plans are being discussed in the President's Council to create a single multiracial Senate or Upper House of Parliament representing white, coloured and Indian people in equal numbers. But there is little chance at this stage that it will include blacks. According to sources in the President's Council, the new Senate is due to have equal numbers of white, coloured and Indian Senators." "The proposed Senate has in some respects been compared to the Upper House proposed in the KwaZulu-Natal Indaba plan because each group would have the same number of members." Breier says that the "only real possibility of including blacks at central government level at this stage still lies in the proposed National Council to be followed by a Council of State, sources said. This has yet to get off the ground as no important black leaders, including homeland leaders, have agreed to serve on it."

NP To Lose Votes on Group Areas Report

"The bombshell report on the Group Areas Act, which was referred back to the President's Council for further investigation three months ago, has disappeared without a trace," writes David Breier on the same page. "It is not expected to emerge before the white General Election." "Although it has not yet been published, it is an open secret that the report recommended a local option solution," but President Botha has indicated that "the only concession the Government is prepared to make is to open the most affluent suburbs to all races. He has predicted that few people who were not white could afford to move to these areas." Breier believes that whichever way the government handles the report the "NP will lose votes."

Moerdyk on Privatization Expediency

Chris Moerdyk writes in the "Issue of the Week" column on page 1 of the "Review" section of *The Sunday Star* that "if the South African Government decided to climb aboard the privatisation bandwagon in one fell swoop, the private sector would have to come up with a staggering R60,000 million to take control of the major State enterprises. But even more staggering is that the private sector could do it." Moerdyk believes that privatization has "the knack of proving time and again that loss-making government enterprises can be turned into profit-making private enterprises fairly quickly and without resorting to jacking up prices and firing half the employees." So, "privatisation is not simply a buzz-word or another form of donning political blinkers. The ratio of privatisation successes to failures indicates that the loading is heavily enough on the side of success to suggest it would be more expedient for any country to join the Privatisation Revolution rather than fight it."

RSA Politics 'Simplistic'

"The horns of the National Party's dilemma are that if it avoids apartheid it will be gored by the Right; if it avoids integration it will be gored by the Left," notes Peter Sullivan in his "Sullivan on Sunday" column on page 3. "The whole election could be phrased as a simple referendum question: do you think the Government is moving towards political representation for all at the right pace? If you answer 'yes' vote National Party. If you answer 'no, too slowly' vote PFP/NRP. If you answer 'no, too fast', vote Conservative Party. If you think the question was posed by a communist, vote HNP. Of course it is simplistic. So is South African politics."

SUNDAY TIMES on NP Defections

"When yet another eminent Nationalist takes flight and declares, despairingly that 'a plan for reform does not exist', we are getting nearer to the truth," says Johannesburg *Sunday Times* in English on 22 February in a page 24 editorial. What the defections from the NP are, in effect, saying is that "the present NP hierarchy is utterly incapable of dealing with our country's greatest crisis. Having declared apartheid outdated, these leaders have not the faintest idea what to put in its place. They talk reform but do nothing about it." The paper warns that "a party, especially one that has always been more of a tribal movement, is in grave peril when it loses its intellectual elite." The actions of Malan and Worrall are "merely public manifestations of a much wider frustration at the top levels of NP support, in and out of Parliament."

Racism Not Dormant

"The decision of the Menlo Park school committee to ban a black athlete serves as a timely lesson to white South Africans," notes a second editorial on the same page. "The committee's actions showed how far we still have to go as a nation, while the reactions of the parent body indicated how far we have already come." This incident showed "how a small cabal of rightwingers can seize the high ground and quietly subvert the mood of the community they ostensibly serve." It also, "alerted us to the fact that despite sea changes in white opinions, racism in some parts of our society is anything but dormant. It needs only a morally supine or confused government to allow that racism to resurrect itself in all its gory form." "Ordinary South Africans, this time in the shape of the parents' body, showed their anger at a gratuitous and ideologically motivated insult to a young athlete. The silent — and moral — majority at Menlo Park spoke...loudly and clearly."

Call To Focus on Economic Policies

Tax consultant Nic Nel writes on the same page that "more economists are concluding that only drastic measures, taken immediately can prevent a final slide into a state of political, social and economic collapse. This is an opinion shared by many young professionals who are increasingly leaving the country." "Economic power is generally a prerequisite for political power and the 'brain drain' is speeding up the process whereby the demands for political power by a black numerical majority will become irresistable." Nel points out that South African blacks are "taxed in exactly the same way as the rest of the population, yet are excluded from the tricameral parliamentary system. Surely, a logical political solution would be a system which provides representation according to taxation." "The white political party which puts racial and emotional issues behind it for the May 6 1987 election, concentrating on economic issues and solutions which are logical and well researched, must gather to it a large following of an electorate disgruntled with the economic and political mismanagement of the National Party. The time is right for economic policies rather than political posturing to provide a home for a centre-left nonracial electorate."

Greater Dissatisfaction With NP

Political correspondent Lester Venter writes on the same page that "a new force is emerging in white politics. For the moment this genie is still disparate, uncrystalised around either a single leader or a specific policy, swirling somewhere between the more enlightened wing of the National Party and the PFP." "A sober school of thought is rising that suggests this election would lay the ground for such a turnaround in 1989, when the Constitution demands that the current Parliament (as opposed to only the white House of Assembly) must be dissolved. The focus is on the terrain that lies between the National Party and the Progressive Federal Party to the NP's left and the PFP's right. And it involves the emergence of a new force there." "It is being done not only by the personalities who are establishing themselves on the terrain, but by the powerful, pervasive desire of South Africans for a new deal that these personalities represent. The intense response from businessmen, academics, politicians and thousands of other South Africans to NP defectors Mr Wynand Malan and Dr Denis Worrall has indicated that they have sounded what was a lost chord in South African politics."

DIE TRANSVALER on Communist Infiltration

A page 23 editorial in Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 19 February says that the NP is going to ask for a mandate from the electorate to "fight the Communist-inspired onslaught with the full forces at the state's disposal." *Die Transvaler* says it is "inconceivable that good South Africans will not support this wholeheartedly." "It is encouraging that from time to time the Western countries focus their attention on this issue and express their concern, but unfortunately they confuse the matter by their obsession with sanctions, and their collaboration with the ANC." The paper further says that "the bitter irony, of the Africa leaders who contemplate sanctions against South Africa, is that they are not aware that they are contemplating population suicide. South Africa does not want to be an accessory to this. What it will do, is protect its own sovereign region, at whatever cost, against Communist infiltration and still offer its help to neighboring states for their free, peaceful development without foreign intimidation and aggression. It is a formidable responsibility which rests on South Africa's shoulders."

BEELD Criticizes Unclear Goals of NP

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 20 February says that President Botha said on television that the NP hopes to "negotiate with leaders of other racial groups in a peaceful way, concerning solutions to social problems and to try to create structures whereby those groups will be able to make decisions about themselves at the highest levels." The paper says this statement "is a mouthful and if such a process were so easy to accomplish as it is to formulate, then South Africa's greatest problems would hopefully be solved." *Beeld* hopes that "long before election day, the government will spell out more clearly its goals and the way it hopes to achieve them. That will deprive the opposition groups of one of their most effective election weapons."

DIE REPUBLIKEIN on Detention Camps

Windhoek *Die Republikein* in Afrikaans on 19 February says in a page 8 editorial that "SWAPO's offer to allow representatives of the Lutheran World Federation to visit its detention camps to determine whether there is any truth to the allegations of violations of human rights, is not satisfactory." "If the international community needs to be satisfied, then why is the International Committee for Human Rights not allowed to participate in the investigation?" "If SWAPO is so eager to prove its innocence, then it should allow some of the people who are making the accusations against it into the investigation team — not as judges but as witnesses."

ZAMBIA

Chissano, Kaunda Remarks at Lusaka Talks Noted

MB201305 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano said yesterday that Mozambique will continue to make efforts to strengthen its friendship and cooperation with Zambia. The Mozambican head of state said: We are prepared to do everything, even the impossible, to preserve our unity. The leader of the Mozambican revolution was speaking at the beginning of talks between Mozambique and Zambia during his 3-day official visit to Zambia.

In a brief welcoming speech at the beginning of the talks, the Zambian President paid homage to President Samora Machel and observed a minute of silence in his honor. To mark the end of the minute of silence, President Kaunda sang the Song "Kanimambo Frelimo, Kanimambo Machel," [Thank you Frelimo, Thank you Machel] which was one of the Machel's favorite songs. The Zambian head of state said the current hardships in southern Africa are the results of our poverty and determination to continue the struggle. President Kaunda emphasized that the death of the first two Frelimo chairmen, Eduardo Mondlane and Samora Machel, reminds us that the struggle has only just begun. In his speech, Kaunda criticized South Africa's destabilizing maneuvers against neighboring countries and censured the West for not adopting a more severe attitude toward the Pretoria regime. In order to accomplish its destabilizing maneuvers, South Africa uses puppet groups like the armed bandits in Mozambique.

The talks between Zambia and Mozambique are being held in the same room where the late President Samora Machel signed the Lusaka accords on 7 September 1984 which led to Mozambique's independence from Portugal. Continuing his visit, the Mozambican head of state will visit the copper mines located in the north of the country today.

Official Talks Continue

MB211636 Dakar PANA in English 1622 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Lusaka, 21 Feb (AIM/PANA) — Official talks continued in Lusaka this morning between delegations headed by President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique and President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia. President Chissano has been on an official visit to Zambia since Thursday. There have been no indications of the agenda for the talks, but the presence of Mozambican Mineral Resources Minister John Kachamila on the presidential delegation and yesterday's visit by president Chissano to the Copperbelt point to the possibilities of cooperation in the area of mining.

A visit to UNIP (United National Independence Party) Headquarters, "Freedom House", was cancellled at the last minute this morning to allow the talks to continue. President Chissano is due to meet members of the UNIP Central Committee this afternoon, and will attend an official dinner tonight at the guest of President Kaunda.

Yesterday evening, the Mozambican leader met some 100 Mozambicans who are resident in Lusaka. He asked them to help the war effort in Mozambique by denouncing to the Zambian authorities any agents of the armed bandits who tried to infiltrate the Mozambican community. Another way Mozambicans in Zambia could help their country was to give material support to Mozambicans from Tete Province who have fled over the border into Zambia to escape the atrocities of the bandits, the president said.

Chissano Addresses Rally

MB211859 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Presidents Kenneth Kaunda and Joaquim Chissano discussed the situation in southern Africa and bilateral relations in Lusaka this morning. The talks took up the whole morning, which caused the scheduled visit to Freedom House [preceding word in English] to be canceled.

The two presidents also discussed destabilization in southern Africa at a rally held in Lusaka this afternoon. Apartheid was vigorously condemned and blamed for the climate of insecurity and economic difficulties experienced in the region. The figure of Samora Machel has been present throughout this first official visit by President Chissano to Zambia. Samora Machel is remembered as a great son of Africa and the hero of the Mozambican people.

Last night, President Chissano met the Mozambican community in Lusaka. He appealed to this community to keep close links with the fatherland.

[Begin Chissano recording] We must say that every Mozambican is free to live where he wishes. What we want is for every Mozambican, wherever he may be, not to lose his Mozambican identity, his pariotism, and his nationalism. Today, we speak about the war in Mozambique, which is the war of all Mozambicans, whether they are inside or outside of the country. [end recording]

President Joaquim Chissano then referred to several ways of helping combat the armed bandits in Mozambique. He called on the Mozambican community in Zambia to be vigilant. President Chissano accused South Africa of infiltrating its agents into a number of southern African countries. He added that the military offensive in Mozambique is making the armed bandits flee into neighboring countries.

That is why you must be organized, so that you can denounce any enemy infiltration to our embassy or the Zambian Government, he said. President Chissano also asked the Mozambican community in Zambia to support displaced persons fleeing the armed bandits in Mozambique. It was also announced during the rally that a commission was recently created to work with all Mozambicans residing abroad. The Mozambican head of state and his delegation will shortly attend a dinner in a Lusaka hotel at the invitation of Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda.

Kaunda Rejects Criticism

MB221010 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia has dismissed mounting criticism at home of his foreign policy. Addressing a rally in Lusaka, President Kaunda said the idea that Zambia was spending too much time and energy on its policy toward South Africa at the expense of its own economy was senseless and ironic, as he put it. [Words indistinct] criticism of President Kaunda's foreign policy began last year when several members of parliament questioned the president's emphasis on the campaign against South Africa. Last week two backbenchers challenged the government stand on economic sanctions against South Africa, describing it as suicide. President Kaunda has pledged to introduce sanctions against South Africa but has so far failed to implement them.

Chissano Condemns RSA

MB230755 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano has said that, in the face of Mozambique's current situation, we cannot wait for peace to launch economic rehabilitation, nor wait for economic recovery to win the war against destabilization. Chissano was speaking in Lusaka last Saturday at a banquet hosted in his honor by President Kenneth Kaunda on the occasion of his official visit to Zambia.

The Mozambican leader underlined that the aggression facing Mozambique was part of Pretoria's action to maintain its domination of the southern Africa countries. Accordingly, the head of state noted, Pretoria concentrates action against the Mozambican railroad system through its instrument, the armed bandits. In this struggle, we have the support of Zambia, other Frontline States, the SADCC, and the international community, Joaquim Chissano stressed.

Kaunda, Chissano Speak

MB221008 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] The president, Dr Kaunda, last night said that South African President P.W. Botha's call for a whites-only election in May this year is an act of desperation and a futile attempt to come to grips with an ever worsening situation. Comrade Kaunda said the situation in South Africa could only improve if the government declared apartheid dead and buried, ended the existing state of emergency, unbanned the ANC, freed Nelson Mandela, and initiated dialogue with the people's representatives. The president was speaking at a state dinner he hosted for the visiting Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and his wife at Hotel Intercontinental. Comrade Kaunda, who said victory is certain for the oppressed people of South Africa in their fight against apartheid, also urged the oppressed to be wary of attempts by Pretoria to turn them against one another, thus misdirecting their noble cause and energy.

And President Chissano said his country has adopted and was already implementing an economic recovery program in which restoration of the economy was one of the basic priorities, and on the battle front, in fighting banditry was a principal task. Comrade Chissano said the people of his country had known no peace for more than 20 years. He said the destabilization policy prompted by South Africa against Mozambique and other Frontline States sought to evade the inevitable: the destruction of apartheid, independence for Namibia, and equitable cooperation in the area. Reaffirming his country's support for the ANC and SWAPO, the president said the cause of peoples of South Africa (?and Namibia) was a just one and that apartheid and colonialism would be destroyed. President Chissano has meanwhile left for home.

Communique on Chissano Visit

MB230750 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1830 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Joint communique issued in Lusaka on 22 February at the end of President Joaquim Chissano's official visit to Zambia from 19 to 22 February — read by announcer]

[Text] 1. At the invitation of His Excellency Dr Kenneth David Kaunda, president of the Republic of Zambia, His Excellency Joaquim Alberto Chissano, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, paid an official visit to Zambia from 19 to 22 February.

2. His Excellency President Joaquim Alberto Chissano, accompanied by Mrs Marcelina Chissano and a high-powered party and government delegation, received a warm and enthusiatic welcome from the Lusaka residents led by his excellency, President Dr Kenneth David Kaunda, accompanied by Comrade Grey Zulu, the honorable secretary general of the United National Independence Party [UNIP]; Comrade Alex Shapi, the honorable secretary of state for defense and security; and members of the UNIP Central Committee, the Council of Ministers, and other senior party and government officials.

3. At the beginning of their fruitful talks, which covered a large area of bilateral and multilateral cooperation in a cordial and fraternal atmosphere, the two presidents paid homage to President Samora Moises Machel, who died during the tragic occurrence of 19 October 1986, as he was returning from a mission of peace and development for southern Africa. They reiterated their determination to continue the ideals for which President Samora Machel lived and died.

4. At the bilateral level, the two presidents analyzed political, economic, and cultural issues. They expressed mutual satisfaction over excellent relations between the two countries. They reiterated their heartfelt desire to continue strengthening these relations. In this context, the two presidents agreed to intensify cooperation through the permanent joint commission for economic, technical, and cultural cooperation. The two presidents noted, however, that the bilateral cooperation program is being undermined by external factors, notably economic sabotage by racist South Africa.

5. The two presidents energetically condemned South Africa for sabotaging their countries' economic infrastructures, especially through the armed bandits, which are South Africa's principal instrument for destabilizing Mozambique.

6. At the international level, the two presidents noted with concern that the situation inside South Africa is deteriorating rapidly. In this context, they vehemently condemned the imposition of the State of Emergency, press censorship, and continued detention of apartheid opponents, including children. The two presidents stated that these measures led to increased violence and strengthened the oppressed South African people's determination to free themselves from the chains of apartheid. They called on the Pretoria regime to dismantle apartheid immediately, legalize the ANC and other political organizations, free Comrade Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, begin talks with authentic representatives of the oppressed people, and create conditions for the establishment of democracy in South Africa.

7. The two presidents saluted the South African people on their firmness against the humiliation of apartheid and promised their continued support. They appealed to the oppressed people of South Africa to remain united in the face of enemy tactics to divide them.

8. The two leaders emphasized the need for the international community to act immediately to prevent a catastrophe in southern Africa.

9. The two leaders appealed to those countries that continue to support the racist South African regime, at a time when so many countries have rejected it and demand the end of apartheid. [sentence as heard] They praised friendly countries and non-governmental organizations for their support for the Frontline States and other countries which are South Africa's neighbors, whith the aim of strengthening them defensively and economically against South African tactics. They also praised the Nonaligned Movement for establishing the African Fund and the OAU's decision to support the Frontline States.

10. On Namibia, the two presidents vehemently condemned South Africa's continued illegal occupation of this territory. They demanded South Africa's immediate and unconditional withdrawal from Namibia, so that UN Security Council Resolution 435 can be implemented immediately. The two leaders reiterated yet again their rejection of the policy of linkage [preceding word in English] with regard to Namibia's independence. The two leaders called on the oppressed people of Namibia to intensify their struggle for freedom and independence under the leadership of SWAPO, which is their sole authentic representative.

11. On Angola, the two leaders once again condemned racist South Africa for its continued occupation of parts of that independent and sovereign African country.

12. His excellency the president of the Republic of Zambia, Dr Kenneth David Kaunda, once again congratulated His Excellency President Joaquim Alberto Chissano for his election as chairman of Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique and assured President Chissano of the support of the party and Government of the Republic of Zambia.

13. His Excellency President Joaquim Alberto Chissano expressed his deep gratitude to His Excellency President Dr Kenneth David Kaunda, the party and its government, as well as to the people of Zambia for the warm reception and hospitality accorded him and his delegation.

14. His Excellency President Joaquim Alberto Chissano invited His Excellency President Kenneth David Kaunda to visit the People's Republic of Mozambique. The invitation was accepted with satisfaction and a date will be determined through diplomatic channels.

Lusaka, 22 February 1987

ZIMBABWE

Government To Legislate Removal of CAZ in 1987

MB191819 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] The minister of information, posts, and telecommunication, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, says the government will this year enact constitutional changes which will legislate the removal of the Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe [CAZ] from parliament. Comrade Shamuyarira told newsmen in the capital today that the process would be speeded up following the remarks made by the leader of the CAZ, Mr Ian Smith, when he visited South Africa recently. During the visit, the former Rhodesian prime minister advised the South Africans on how to subvert sanctions which have been endorsed by the international community as a means of forcing the regime to abandon the system of apartheid.

Comrade Shamuyarira said the government has always treated whites as ordinary citizens who are expected to be loyal, but Mr Smith succeeded [words indistinct] in independent Zimbabwe. Comrade Shamuyarira expressed the hope that whites will not be misled by the CAZ leader, whom he described as a total failure now hoping to lead South Africans through a blind alley.

CAZ To Continue Work

MB191310 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1227 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Harare Feb 19, SAPA — The Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe (CAZ), which represents the majority of whites in parliament, said yesterday it intended to soldier on as a political party even after the reserved white seats are abolished, ZIANA reports.

Mr Lou Ankers, chairman of the party and a farmer in the Chinhoyi area north of Harare, said this in a telephone interview with ZIANA.

He said that even if the white seats were eliminated the CAZ wanted to carry on until the introduction of a one-party state.

His party planned to contest elections on the common roll.

Mr Ankers said he had had no notification from the government that the white seats could be abolished within two months as the Constitution matured and certain sections became operative.

Under the Lancaster House Constitution drawn-up in London in 1979 and which gave Zimbabwe independence, 20 seats were reserved for whites in the 100-seat House of Assembly and 10 in the 40-seat Senate.

The Constitution provided that the white seats could be removed either by a 100 percent vote in the Assembly, a normal majority vote of 70 after the second general election, or after seven years of independence.

Neither of the first of these two provisions have become operative. Thus the third formally takes effect on April 18, just less than two months away, ZIANA reported.

The CAZ is led by former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith, a veteran of 38 years in the House of Assembly, who only last week raised the hackles of Zimbabweans when he advised South African businessmen in Johannesburg that unity was necessary in the face of sanctions, the ZIANA report said.

Mr Ankers said that, as party chairman, he had received no official notification of what the government intended to do about the white seats.

But he said he believed that an act of parliament would have to be passed by a 70 percent vote to formally abolish the white seats.

He felt there might be no rush to do this and the government might wait until the formal opening of parliament in June before dealing with the bill.

But, alternatively, he confirmed the house was due to sit again on March 24 and the possibility existed that the government might push the measure through.

Even without representation in the Assembly, and consequently the Senate, the CAZ would continue to exist and fight election where feasible on the common roll, said Mr Ankers.

He added that hope springs eternal and because of the complexities of the constitutional situation the government might allow white representation in parliament until the expiry of the Lancaster House agreement in 1990.

The ruling ZANU (PF) of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe holds 66 seats in the Assembly and, besides the CAZ, there are 14 ZAPU members led by Joshua Nkomo, five white independents and one ZANU (Sithole), the ZIANA report said.

Mugabe Announces National Service by End of Year

MB211947 Harare Domestic Service in English
1745 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has announced that the youth will be enlisted for national service by the end of the year. Comrade Mugabe made the announcement in Harare today when he addressed a large crowd at the Rufaro Stadium to mark the (?1st) anniversary of the 21st February Movement. Details of the national service for the youth after O levels will be announced later. He called for the transformation of the 21st February Movement into a concrete revolutionary organ. The prime minister stressed the importance of the mobilization and education of the future leaders and cadres of the revolution. Comrade Mugabe was presented with various gifts and presents from members of the 21st February Movement, the Women's League, and other well-wishers.

Commercial Traffic Reportedly Delayed at Border

MB241150 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] Commercial vehicles carrying goods to and from South Africa are being delayed at the South African border post of Messina due to through checks by customs officials. Drivers traveling on this route told the ZBC [Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation] in Beitbridge that vehicles most affected by the system are those carrying piecemeal goods.